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ANNUAL REPORTS

FOR THE YEAR

1910.

ON THE

BOROUGH OF EVESHAM,

AND

EVESHAM,

PERSHORE AND FECKENHAM

RURAL DISTRICTS,

WITH

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS AND

APPENDICES.

BY

G. H. FOSBROKE, D.P.H., Camb.,

County Medical Officer.

PERSHORE :

PRINTED BY FEARNside & MARTIN, AVON PRINTING WORKS,
BRIDGE STREET.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

To the Corporation of Evesham, and the Evesham, Pershore and Feckenham Rural District Councils.

GENTLEMEN,

As you have decided to continue the practice, which has obtained for some years, of publishing these Annual Reports as a joint pamphlet, I propose before discussing local Sanitary details to offer some "general observations" applicable to all of your Districts; since by doing so, repetition and unnecessary cost in printing will be avoided. Certain questions to which reference has to be made, are discussed in special detail Memoranda, given as Appendices to this report.

In November last the Local Government Board issued a "Memorandum as to the Annual Reports of Medical Officers of Health for 1910," (for a summary of which see Appendix A), which specifies the information to be contained in them, and the subjects concerning which the Board desire to obtain information.

Scope of Report.

The Memorandum states: "that these reports are for the" "information of the Board and of the County Council, as well as" "the Council of the District, and that a statement of the local" "circumstances and a history of local sanitary questions which" "may seem superfluous for the latter, may often be needed by" "the former bodies."

"It is expected that each of the points (referred" "to in the Memorandum) will be mentioned in the Annual Report," "and it is of especial importance that the Medical Officer of Health" "should record what action has been taken to remedy unhealthy" "conditions which have been reported by him in previous Annual" "Reports, or in Special Reports presented during the year under" "review, and that attention should be called afresh year by year" "to such as remain unremedied."

Character of Districts.

As the "physical features and general character of your Districts," "and general condition of its population" (see Appendix A) are

much alike, it may be conveniently mentioned here, that agriculture and market gardening are the principal industries; and that except in the Feckenham District, where needles are also largely manufactured, there are few "factories." The Borough of Evesham is the centre of the market gardening industry, and is generally recognized as a "go-a-head" town; the local interests having been greatly furthered by the thorough way in which the Corporation have for years past actively administered the Public Health Acts. The prosperity of Evesham Rural District is also to a considerable extent due, to the continuous forethought of the Local Authority in carrying out water schemes (one a very comprehensive one) and sewerage works; thus offering inducements to build, which have been freely made use of in many parts of the District.

Systematic Inspection.

Systematic inspections of each district have, as usual, been made during the past year; and now that each Authority has recently appointed their Sanitary Inspector to compile the "records" (see Appendix C) required by the "Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909." (S. 17), the inspections will in future be more complete, and the Summaries of the "records" will be given in future Annual Reports.

Midwives and Notification of Births Acts.

The Board ask for information as to the administration of the Midwives Act in relation to puerperal fever, and of the Notification of Births Act, 1907, in relation to infantile mortality; so it should be stated that both these Acts are administered by the County Council, who have entrusted me with the supervision of the staff employed for the purpose.

The methods adopted, and results of the administration, are fully described in my County "Digest of Annual Reports," copies of which are sent to each of your Chairmen and Clerks, every year.

Weekly Notification of Disease.

The "Sanitary Officers (outside London) Order, 1910," (see Appendix B) of the Local Government Board, imposes the additional duty upon Medical Officers of Health of sending to the Board every Monday a list of cases of infectious diseases notified in his district, and a duplicate of the list to the County Medical Officer. In return for this, the Board send to each Medical Officer every Friday a return showing the infectious diseases notified in each Sanitary District (grouped according to counties) in England and Wales. This plan now takes the place of the voluntary arrangement I made (with the approval of the County Council) with the Worcestershire Medical Officers in 1890, by which they sent weekly returns to me on Mondays and I issued a County statement the following day. The Local Government Board scheme is a good one, as it keeps Medical Officers informed of the incidence of infectious diseases in all parts of England and Wales.

Special Reports.

Until January 1st, 1911, a Medical Officer was required to send to the Board as "Special Reports", notices of the cases in which he advised the closure of any school in his District; the "Sanitary Officers (outside London) Order, 1910," now rescinds this obligation.

I do however still receive such information in my capacity of "School Medical Officer" for the County; arrangements having been made with the Worcestershire Medical Officers in the early part of last year for me to sign "closing orders" on their behalf, since this procedure facilitated closure and saved, not only Local Authorities, but Medical Officers trouble.

Food. Milk.

With regard to the information required by the Board as to the "character and wholesomeness of the milk produced within the district, or imported," as well as of "other foods" and the "Action under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, taken or needed" (Appendix A), it should be said that the County Council administer this Act, and that no samples of "food" have been sent to the County Analyst by your Sanitary Inspectors.

The following is an extract from a circular letter (dated 19th December, 1910) of the Local Government Board with respect to the "Sale of Food and Drugs Acts":

"In some instances sanitary authorities who have not the power to appoint public analysts supplement the work done by the County Council under the Acts by instructing their officers to take additional samples.

It has been suggested to the Board by some of these sanitary authorities that it would tend to prevent overlapping, and would otherwise assist them if they could be supplied by the County Councils of their respective Counties with information as to the work done in their districts under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts by officers of the County Council.

The Board concur in the suggestion, and they would be glad if the County Councils would give their officers the necessary instructions in the matter."

This suggestion has been approved by the County "Public Health and Housing Committee," so that in future you will learn, when samples of milk and food are collected by the Police in your Districts, and the results of the analyses. I think you will then find, that although on an average not less than 1700 samples of food and drugs are collected by the County Officials for analysis every year, it is desirable that your Inspectors should send in others; especially samples of the milk sold by the "purveyors" who trade in your Districts.

It may interest you to know that on 8th March, 1909 the County

Council instructed "the Chief Constable to direct the police to take
 "from time to time, under the direction of the County Analyst such
 "number of test samples as will enable it to be ascertained how far the
 "milk supply in the County contains foreign matter other than added
 "water."

The Council "expressed the opinion that the taking of 100 samples,
 "fairly distributed throughout the County, would, for the present, meet
 "the necessities of the case."

The County Analyst (Mr. Cecil Duncan), as directed, presented his
 report to the County Council in November, 1910, and the following are
 a few extracts from it:

"One hundred samples of milk have been received from all over the
 "County and subjected to physical and bacteriological examination, and
 "also to chemical analysis."

..... "Special tests were made for the detecting of living Tubercle
 "Bacilli. Four per cent of the samples set up tuberculosis in the
 "inoculated animals. Twenty per cent of the animals died long before
 "tuberculosis could develop. The cause of death could not in all cases
 "be accounted for, but in several it was due to the poisonous action of a
 "bacillus always present in cow dung and frequently in dust from cow-
 "sheds. Fifty-eight per cent of the samples experimented with
 "were free from pathogenic or disease-producing organisms. None
 "of the inoculated animals developed any symptoms which pointed to
 "the presence in the milks of the Diphtheria Bacillus. None of the
 "samples were grossly contaminated with visible dirt. There can
 "be no doubt that greater care is being taken in the handling of milk,
 "but it must not be forgotten that if animal filth (dung) accidentally
 "falls into milk, the mere sieving off of this by means of fine muslin
 "only removes from the milk the larger particles of dirt and not the
 "dangerous bacteria, etc. Milk is a perfect food for many bacteria and
 "in it they rapidly multiply. In 33 per cent of the samples the
 "(Bacillus Coli and Bacillus Enteritidis Sporogenes) were detected together.
 "The presence of these bacilli together points strongly to the presence
 "of animal matter in the samples, either in the form of dust or manure.
 "All the samples were subjected to chemical analysis and it is of interest
 "to note that preservatives (Boron Compounds or Formalin) were not
 "detected in any of the samples."

"As regards the quality of the samples, as determined by chemical
 "analysis, it was found that 80 per cent of the samples passed the
 "minimum standard of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, viz.:
 "3 per cent of fat, and 8.5 per cent of non-fatty solids. Six per cent
 "were deficient in fat, and 11 per cent were deficient in non-fatty solids,
 "and 3 per cent were deficient both in fat and non-fatty solids."

From this it appears that although "greater care is being taken in the
 "handling of milk, in 33 per cent of the samples (there was)
 "animal matter in the samples, either in the form of dust or manure."

This Report shows that even yet greater cleanliness of the cows and cowsheds and in milking operations is needed. My experience is that, as a rule, the small dairies are not as well kept as the larger ones; presumably because the smaller dairymen have not yet appreciated the necessity for cleanliness in the way dairymen in a large way of business do. With regard to the statement that "58 per cent of the samples experimented with were free from pathogenic, or disease-producing organisms" I would point out that when samples, subsequently found to be free from "disease-producing organisms," are collected from large churns of milk, it does not follow that the whole of that milk is free from tubercle; for not until sanitary officials are empowered to take samples of milk from cows direct (as proposed in the "Milk Bill" presented to Parliament a short time back) can tuberculous milk be detected with certainty. In connection with this I would emphasize Mr. Duncan's statement that "milk is a perfect food for many bacteria, and that in it they rapidly multiply, especially if the milk is warm, thus rendering the contaminated milk more or less dangerous for use as food."

The state of the local cowsheds will be dealt with in the individual reports.

The Borough Surveyor for Evesham mentions that his whitewashing machine is very effective. I have used such an apparatus for whitewashing my cowsheds and piggeries for several years, and strongly advise dairymen and others, for reasons of efficiency and economy to do the same.

Veterinary Inspectors.

The Board further inquire, whether any action in causing dairy cows in the District to be examined by Veterinary Surgeons is being taken; and for full information as to the manner in which tuberculous cows have been disposed of?

The reply to this is in the negative; nevertheless I am decidedly of opinion that inspection of milking cows by Veterinary Surgeons in order to detect tuberculosis and other affections, especially of cows' udders, is desirable. I trust therefore it will not be long before you are able to arrange for this.

Meat.

The Board ask to be informed precisely what arrangements are made for the inspection of meat in the district, whether the slaughter-houses are visited at the time of slaughtering, and whether there is an Inspector with a special certificate in meat inspection.

Neither of your Inspectors holds a "special certificate in meat inspection,"—these certificates are not ordinarily held by Sanitary Inspectors, but by "specialists." Nevertheless it is most important that all Inspectors,—and Medical Officers also,—should be trained in the practical examination of meat, and especially of tuberculous meat.

The Worcestershire Sanitary Inspectors' Association applied to the County Higher Education Committee for a grant of £20 to enable

four of their number (one of whom was the present Inspector of the Evesham Rural District), to attend a course of lectures in Birmingham with a view to qualifying for a "certificate in meat inspection." Personally I regret that the committee did not see their way to make this "grant," especially as it would have been but a small part of the cost these Inspectors would have to bear, in educating themselves to protect public health.

Your Inspectors do examine meat from time to time, but I fear that for various reasons the work is not as systematically done, as its importance requires.

You will notice in your Inspectors' reports (to be given later) that in 1910 there were no seizure of articles "as unfit for food" in either of your districts. I do not think there is much local traffic in bad meat, but I suggest that it is a question to which more attention might advantageously be given.

Information as to the slaughter-houses will be given in the District Reports.

Control of Tuberculosis.

The great need for the control of consumption, with methods of doing so, and the powers you possess, are dealt with at considerable length in my Annual Report (Appendix p. 69) for 1908.

Cases of Consumption among "poor persons" (*i.e.* paupers) are reported to me as required by the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations 1908, (see Appendix to Annual Report for 1908).

These cases are visited by your Inspector as soon as "notified"; and every three months, with the view of educating the sufferers and those in contact with them, as to the precautionary measures to be adopted. Your Inspectors report to me every quarter what is being done. Disinfection of the rooms occupied by consumptives is carried out by your Inspectors, either when the patients die, or remove to other houses. As yet "spittoons" for the use of these consumptives are not provided by either Authority. In my opinion it is most desirable that they should be, as they would tend to prevent this infectious complaint from spreading, and would cost little.

"Voluntary Notification" of Consumption in your Districts has been adopted, medical men being offered a fee of 2/6 for each case notified: on condition that if an official visit is not required, it shall not be made, and nothing shall be done to interfere with the affected person proceeding with his usual avocation. These arrangements however only led to the notification of 8 cases in your Districts collectively last year, viz.: 5 Poor Law notifications, and 3 Voluntary notifications.

As the total number of deaths in your Districts during 1910 was 22, it follows that probably there were at least 100 local cases during that time.

The Evesham Rural Authority recently applied to the Local Government Board to make Consumption compulsorily notifiable, who replied (21st February, 1910) "that the Board have not approved the application "of the Infectious Notification Act, 1889, to Pulmonary Tuberculosis in "any district, (and that they) are considering the question of issuing a "further general Order to require the notification of all cases at "Hospitals and Dispensaries." This will not be of any value as there is no Hospital for "out-door" patients, or Dispensary in either of your Districts.

No isolation hospital accommodation has been provided for consumptives—either in the early stages with a view to cure, or in advanced cases in order to limit the spread of the disorder. This matter has however received your attention, and proposals to retain beds at the Worcestershire Consumption Sanatorium, at Knightwick, for early cases were negatived by each of you.

The Pershore Council however decided to purchase a "shelter" for use in their District when the local medical men required it; but I understand that as yet, this has not been done.

"Shelters" are undoubtedly very useful in assisting "cures" of "consumptives" in the early stage of the disease, but it cannot be too clearly understood that sleeping in the open air is not the only requisite for promoting recovery. CONSTANT Medical Supervision to regulate rest and exercise are essentials of treatment: since a patient's condition often varies from day to day, or even from hour to hour; and unless he is frequently seen by his doctor, he does not get the best chance of recovery.

An important part of Sanatorium treatment should be schooling in sanitary habits, effective disposal of expectoration and hearty co-operation of the patient. It may interest some of you to know how the patients at the "Knightwick Sanatorium" spend their time, so I give the "Time Table" in force there.

7.30 a.m.	..	Take temperature. Glass of milk. Wash and dress.
8.45	.. ..	Breakfast.
9.15	.. ..	Prayers. Wash up breakfast things.
9.30—10.15		Rest.
10.15—12.45		Mop cubicles. Allotted work, or walk.
12.45—1.45		Rest. Take temperature.
1.45	.. ..	Dinner.
2.30—3.15	..	Wash up dinner things and then rest.
3.15—5	..	Allotted work, or walk.
5—6	.. ..	Tea. Recreation.
6—7	.. ..	Rest. Take temperature.
7..	.. ..	Supper. Wash up supper things.
7.45—8.45	..	Recreation.
9..	.. ..	In bed.
10	.. ..	Lights out. No talking.

You will notice that the "Temperature" of each patient is taken 3 times a day, and all patients are obliged to "rest" before and after their meals.

The suggestion first made in my Annual Report for 1908, that the Evesham and Pershore Smallpox Hospital should be used for advanced cases of Consumption during the long intervals which happily occur between the times that hospital is not occupied by smallpox patients, has met with no response.

Small Pox and local Vaccination.

For many years past your districts have experienced complete immunity from smallpox, so that some persons have come to regard the Joint Smallpox Hospital for Evesham Borough and the Evesham and Pershore Rural Districts as a "white elephant."

At the time of writing, smallpox has re-appeared in several parts of England, and more especially in London, and should it break out in your districts, which is by no means a remote possibility, I think those persons who hold that opinion would then appreciate that the Institution is not the incubus they now suppose it to be, for it is maintained in readiness to receive a patient at any moment. The desirability of this is beyond question, and especially as the true preventative of smallpox,—I mean of course, efficient vaccination and re-vaccination,—is now greatly neglected. Through the courtesy of the Evesham and Pershore Vaccination Officers I am enabled to lay before you the following return, which I submit fully substantiates my assertion as to this neglect.

Union.	No. of Births.	No. Vaccinated.	No. of Conscientious Objections.	Died Unvaccinated.	Postponed by Medical Certificate.	Removals.	Certificates not returned 17-3-11.
Evesham .. (1909 and 1910)	1010	317	597	55	5	28	8
Pershore .. (1910)	244	91	48	12	4	—	89
Total ..	1254	408	645	67	9	28	97

The Vaccination Officers for the Evesham and Pershore Districts have courteously and gratuitously sent me the above information. I asked the Vaccination officer for the Feckenham District (Mr. Johnson), for similar information: he replied that his district embraced parishes in Worcestershire and Warwickshire, and he supposed I wanted a return for Worcestershire parishes only; and as it would take some time to prepare the return, he presumed the Worcestershire County Council would pay 5/- for the information. I informed him that the figures were wanted for the District Report, not for the County Council, and that there would be no need to extract information for Worcestershire parishes, but figures for the whole of his district would suffice. Mr. Johnson wrote March 18th last: "....I am not prepared to make" "this return.There is nothing in the Act calling upon me" "to make such a return."

From the Table it appears that of the total number of children born in these districts only 34 per cent were vaccinated; 5 per cent died unvaccinated, and no less than 52 per cent remain unvaccinated, and are consequently unprotected against smallpox. This latter circumstance is largely due to the fact that since 1908, the first complete year after the relaxation of the law enforcing vaccination, "conscientious objectors" can now obtain exemption certificates with little trouble and without cost. The Table shows that in the Evesham Union 59 per cent of the children born in 1909 and 1910 were exempted from vaccination for "conscientious" reasons, but that in the Pershore district only 19 per cent so objected. During the nine years before the 1907 Act, the "exemptions" in England and Wales never rose higher than 5·8 per cent. A marked change occurred in 1908, the exemptions in England and Wales rising to 17 per cent.

It may be true that in some parts of the country applicants for exemption under the 1898 Act had been improperly hampered when applying for exemption. This undoubtedly called for amendment, but not for the total removal of all obligation on the part of the parent, except the mere declaration so easily obtained. This state of things is a cause for great uneasiness on the part of those who have witnessed epidemics of smallpox (as I have) and realise how loathsome and fatal a disease it is when it attacks unvaccinated persons.

Should smallpox obtain a footing in your districts, the numbers of unvaccinated persons will greatly assist in its spread, and the public will consequently be called upon to provide large sums of money to meet such an emergency, an altogether unnecessary expenditure, if vaccination were properly enforced.

Inflammation of the Eyes in Babies (Ophthalmia Neonatorum).

I am glad to say that each Authority I now have the pleasure to address, has adopted the Scheme described in Appendix E, and that as soon as the approval of the Local Government Board has been obtained, this disease, which so often causes children to go blind, will be notifiable in your Districts. I feel sure you will have no cause to regret the small expense which it will entail.

Plague.

The question of the dissemination of Plague (a disease which recently appeared in Suffolk) by rats is discussed in Appendix D, and the expediency of destroying such vermin is plainly indicated; but it should be borne in mind that isolated action will not be effective. I trust therefore that the necessity for general warfare against such pests will soon be appreciated, and acted upon.

Disinfection. It seems unnecessary to say anything about this now, as I presented a Special Memorandum on the subject in my last Report.

Statistics.

The Board in their Memorandum as to the Annual Reports for 1910, (Appendix A) specially directed the attention of Medical Officers to the fact that the Statistical Tables (I.—V.) which have been used for so many years, will be materially changed in 1911 in connection with the announcement of the Registrar General that he will publish statistics for *Sanitary Districts* in England and Wales, instead of for “Registration Sub-Districts.”

This will be a decided improvement, as it has long been felt that all Returns of Births and Deaths should be for Sanitary Districts.

The Board add “that arrangements having been made with the “Registrar General for the distribution, in conjunction with the “District and County Medical Officers of Health, of Deaths in Institutions, it is necessary that the Medical Officer of Health should “receive if possible weekly, and at any rate monthly returns of “deaths from the Local Registrars.”

I therefore ask you to arrange with your Registrars to send me their return *at the end of each week.*

The Census.

The next decennial census will be taken in April, and I anticipate that the *estimates* of the local, and other populations (for the later years of the decade especially) made by the best known methods, will then be shown to be inaccurate. Should this be so, the recent mortality statistics for your districts should be revised.

Reports of Sanitary Inspectors.

The Annual Reports of your Inspectors are published with my Reports on your respective Districts. I framed the tabular statements they contain, many years ago; and as so many Sanitary Acts of Parliament have been passed since then, and the duties of the Inspectors have just been reframed, it is my intention to issue a new tabular statement next year.

These “General Observations” have been more extended than I originally intended, but I trust they will be of interest to some of you.

I will now pass on to the more detail matters connected with each of your Districts.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

G. H. FOSBROKE, D.P.H., Camb.,

County Medical Officer and Medical Officer of Health
for the Borough of Evesham, and the Evesham,
Persnore and Feckenham Rural Districts.

SHIREHALL, WORCESTER,

March, 1911.

To the Evesham Corporation.

MR. MAYOR AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1910, and to ask you to consider it in conjunction with the prefatory "General Observations" and the "Appendices."

Copies will, as usual, be forwarded to the Local Government Board, Secretary of State, and the County Council.

Statistical Data.

The following Tables I, III, IV, and V, are given as required by the Local Government Board.

Table II is omitted, as it is not applicable to the Borough.

TABLE I.

YEAR.	Population estimated to the end of 1910.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.		DEATHS AT ALL AGES. TOTAL.		DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.	Deaths of Non-Residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond District.	DEATHS AT ALL AGES. NET.	
		Number.	Rate.*	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.*				Number.	Rate.*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8.	9	10	11	12	13
1900.	7,645	212	27.7	31	146	128	16.7	5	3	5	130	17.0
1901.	7,101	229	32.2	21	91	96	13.5	9	3	7	100	14.0
1902.	7,101	219	30.8	29	132	99	13.9	2	2	6	103	14.5
1903.	7,101	238	33.5	35	147	107	15.0	14	8	10	109	15.3
1904.	7,101	209	29.4	17	81	100	14.0	13	5	3	98	13.6
1905.	7,800	228	29.2	31	136	109	13.9	10	7	8	110	14.0
1906.	7,800	224	28.7	32	142	101	12.9	8	6	9	104	13.2
1907.	8,290	234	28.2	16	68	93	11.2	6	1	7	99	11.9
1908.	8,290	234	28.2	16	68	94	11.3	6	1	7	100	12.0
1909.	8,300	216	26.1	24	111	97	11.6	7	5	14	106	12.7
Averages for years 1900-1909.	7,652	224	29.4	25	112	102	13.3	8	4	7	105	13.8
1910.	8,300	218	26.2	20	90	92	11.0	12	4	17	105	12.6

* Rates calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

NOTE.—The deaths to be included in Column 7 of this table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district or division. The deaths to be included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of illness, and dying there, and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of illness, and have died elsewhere.

Table II is omitted as it is not applicable to the Borough.

TABLE III.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1910.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.							Total cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upwards.	
Small-pox								
Cholera								
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	5		1	4				5
Erysipelas	3							
Scarlet Fever ..	26		4	18	2	2		26
Typhus Fever ..								
Enteric Fever ..								
Relapsing Fever ..								
Continued Fever ..								
Puerperal Fever ..								
Plague								
Consumption ..								
Totals ..	34		5	22	2	2		31

TABLE IV.

Causes of, and ages at, Death during Year 1910.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.						
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.
Small-pox							
Measles							
Scarlet Fever							
Whooping-cough							
Diphtheria and membranous croup							
Croup							
Fever { Typhus							
{ Enteric							
{ Other continued							
Epidemic influenza							
Cholera							
Plague							
Diarrhœa	3		1				2
Enteritis	1	1					
Puerperal fever							
Erysipelas							
Other septic diseases							
Phthisis	6*					6	
Other tubercular diseases	1			1			
Cancer, malignant disease	8			2	1	2	3
Bronchitis	9	3					6
Pneumonia	11		1			7	3
Pleurisy	1					1	
Other diseases of Respiratory organs	1					1	
Alcoholism							
Cirrhosis of liver	3					2	1
Venereal diseases							
Premature birth	4	4					
Diseases and accidents of parturition	1					1	
Heart diseases	13					7	6
Accidents	4		1	1	1	1	
Suicides	2					2	
Senile decay	16						16
.....							
.....							
.....							
All other causes	21	12	2	1		4	2
All causes	105	20	5	5	2	34	39

* And there was another one in the Workhouse.

TABLE V.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1910.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks	Total under 1 month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
ALL CAUSES	Certified . Uncertified	9	1	3		13	1	2	1		1		1					19
									1									1
Common Infectious Diseases.	Small Pox																	
	Chicken Pox																	
	Measles																	
	Scarlet Fever ..																	
	Diphtheria: including Membranous Croup																	
Diarrhoeal Diseases.	Whooping Cough																	
	Diarrhoea, all forms																	
	Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis							1										1
Wasting Diseases.	Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh																	
	Premature Birth	3				3												3
Tuberculous Diseases.	Congenital Defects	1				1							1					2
	Injury at Birth																	
	Want of Breast Milk, Starvation																	
	Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus																	
Other Causes.	Tuberculous Meningitis																	
	Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes Mesenterica																	
	Other Tuberculous Diseases																	
Other Causes.	Erysipelas																	
	Syphilis																	
	Rickets																	
	Meningitis (not Tuberculous)																	
	Convulsions	2				2												2
	Bronchitis							1	1		1							3
	Laryngitis																	
	Pneumonia																	
	Suffocation, overlying																	
	Other causes ..	3	1	3		7	1		1									9
		9	1	3		13	1	2	2		1		1					20

Table I shows that 218 births were registered in 1910, and that the birth rate amounted to 26·2 per 1,000 of the population; as compared with an average rate during the 10 years 1900—1909 of 29·4.

The corresponding rate of England and Wales amounted to 24·8 per 1,000 of the population, a rate which is 0·8 per 1000 below that in 1909, and lower than the rate in any other year on record.

Compared with the average in the 10 years 1900—1909 (29·4), the Borough birth rate of 1910 showed a decrease of 3·2 per 1000. The regrettable decline in the birth rate, therefore continues not only in the Borough, but also in the country generally.

To some extent however this is counterbalanced by the general decrease in the infantile mortality; nevertheless, as I have mentioned in former reports, such lowering of the birth rate is deplorable, and if continued must affect the national welfare.

Table I shows that the total number of deaths registered in the Borough in 1910 was 92, and that the death rate upon this basis amounted to 11·0. On the other hand the “net death rate,” arrived at by excluding “deaths of non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the Borough” and including “deaths of residents registered in Public Institutions” outside, but who belonged to it, equalled 12·6.

Last year (Table I) there were 17 deaths of “residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the district” who belonged to Evesham, viz.: Workhouse 14, Worcester Infirmary 2, Birmingham Hospital 1.

The net Borough death rate for 1910 (12·6) is below the average for the years 1900-09 (13·8).

The infantile mortality was as low as 90 per 1000, registered births—the standard of a healthy district being usually taken as 100.

The infantile mortality of England and Wales in 1910 was 106, which is the lowest on record, and 3 per 1000 below 1909, and a decrease of 26 per 1000 on the average rate for 1900-09.

Details of the deaths which caused the low rate of infantile mortality (90) in the Borough are given in Table V.

Table VI. shows that the local zymotic death rates as compared with those of England and Wales are favourable.

TABLE VI.

Rates per 1,000 of population.

	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.		Principal Epidemic Diseases.	Smallpox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Whooping Cough.	Fever.	Diarrhœa.	Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 Births.
		Crude.	Corrected.									
Borough of Evesham	26·2	11·0	12·6	0·3	0·0	0·0	0·0	0·0	0·0	0·0	0·3	90
England and Wales	24·8	13·4	13·4	0·9	0·0	0·23	0·06	0·12	0·24	0·05	0·29	106

Scarlet Fever.

Table VII shows the monthly incidence of Scarlet Fever.

TABLE VII.

No. of cases in each month.			Total.	Dates of fatal cases.
Jan. (1), Apr. (2), Sept. (2), Dec. (1).	Feb. (2), May (5), Oct. (3),	Mar. (1), June (1), Nov. (8).	26	None

Thus it appears that cases of Scarlatina occurred during 10 months of the year. Table III shows that 22 of the 26 cases occurred in children under 15 years of age.

The disease was of mild type and no death occurred.

The whole of the patients were treated at the "Sanatorium."

Personal infection—I believe due to mild cases not under medical supervision—was the cause of the disease. The effort made, by visiting the schools and otherwise, to detect "unrecognised cases" was successful in several instances.

Diphtheria.

Table VIII shows the monthly incidence of Diphtheria.

TABLE VIII.

No. of Cases in each month.			Total.	Dates of fatal cases.
Feb (1), Sept. (1),	Mar. (2),	July (1),	5	None.

There were only 5 cases (no death) of diphtheria in 1910 as compared with 16 in 1909. All were children under 15 years of age, and treated at the Sanatorium.

If the case was a child at school, the throats of other pupils who were suspected to be infectious were “swabbed,” and the swabs tested bacteriologically. I look upon this procedure as one of the essential safeguards against spread of this infectious disease.

Typhoid Fever.

The Borough experienced complete immunity from Typhoid Fever during the year—and this fortunately is no new experience.

Consumption.

Table IX shows the number of deaths and death rates from Consumption in each of the years 1902–1910 inclusive.

TABLE IX.

	1910	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902
No. of Deaths in District.....	7a	6	7	12	11	7	7	9	5
District Death rate *	8·4	7·2	8·4	14·4	14·1	8·9	9·8	12·6	7·0
County Death Rate *	Not known	7·9	8·1	7·8	7·8	8·0	7·7	7·5	8·4

(a) includes 1 death in the Workhouse in a pauper from the Borough.

* Per 10,000 of the population.

The average Borough death rate from Consumption (10·0) is higher than that of the County (6·3).

No case was “notified” under the “Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations 1908” and but 1 under the “Voluntary Arrangement.” As there were 7 deaths in persons chargeable to the Borough, it follows that there must have been many cases—probably 28 or 30—which were not heard of. This shortage is alluded to under “General Observations.”

My suggestion as to treating “advanced” cases (*i.e.* patients not in the first stage of the disease) at your Smallpox Hospital has met with no response; nor, so far as I know, has the question of subsidising the “Knightwick Sanatorium,” in order to retain 1 or more “beds” for the use of consumptive persons in Evesham, who are unable to pay for themselves.

“Disinfection” is carried out in cases where consumptive persons vacate rooms, and leaflets are distributed; but after all this is not doing much.

Isolation Hospital Accommodation.

During 1910 the total number of patients treated at the Sanatorium was 42, viz. :

TABLE X.

Diseases.	Evesham Borough.		Evesham Rural District.		Pebworth Rural District.		Total.	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
Scarlet Fever ..	26	—	4	—	2	—	32	—
Diphtheria	5	—	2	—	3	—	10	—
Typhoid Fever .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ..	31	—	6	—	5	—	42	—

Table X shows that not many patients were sent to the “Sanatorium” during the year. The 26 cases of Scarlatina and 5 of Diphtheria notified in the Borough during 1910, were treated there.

This Isolation Hospital is efficient, and sufficient for the 3 Districts it serves.

The Joint Smallpox Hospital fortunately has not been required for some years ; but is a suitable one, and kept in constant readiness.

Disinfection.

All articles known to be infected by “notifiable” diseases are disinfected in the “Thresh Apparatus” at the Sanatorium.

A Special Memorandum on this subject is given in my Annual Report for 1909. I deprecated “sulphur fumigation,” and mentioned that your Inspector used suitable “Alformant Lamps.” My recommendation that you should purchase a “Mackenzie Sprayer” has been carried out.

Inflammation of Eyes in Infants. (Ophthalmia Neonatorum).

You adopted the scheme outlined in Appendix E. and applied to the Local Government Board for permission to make the disease notifiable.

House Accommodation.

Your Surveyor informs me that fewer houses than usual were built during the year ; but as more building sites have recently been put on the market, plans for dwelling houses are coming in much faster. The streets known as the “Four Corners” (Chapel Street) have been widened. Plans for a new street on Green Hill have been passed, and others for new streets are being prepared.

It is expected that the coming year will see the completion of the King's Road improvement, and consequently that there will be a better approach to the Sanatorium (Isolation Hospital).

Plans and estimates for a main thoroughfare and bridge over the Avon, have been forwarded to the Roads Board. A "Concentrated Produce Factory" has been opened during the year, and another factory (Messrs. Willmotts') has been much enlarged.

Several buildings of the warehouse class have been improved. Two courts have been paved with impervious material.

One of the 7 houses in Chapel Street and Mill Street I condemned in 1909 has been made fit for habitation, and 6 have been demolished.

The "representation" made with regard to the houses known as "Nailors' Row," Bengeworth, has resulted in improved ventilation; 10 windows in the back walls of bedrooms having been made to open, and 8 living rooms now have "through ventilation."

I urged the owner of these houses to provide back doors and back yards, and regret he declined to accede to the request; as his property would readily have permitted this proposal to be carried out.

3 cottages in "Avon Court," condemned some years back, have been pulled down, and the ground on which they stood thrown into the yard of other dwellings.

Compilation of the "records" required by the "Housing, Town Planning, etc. Act, 1909," will not materially alter procedure, as a "House to House Survey" has been made, street by street, for long past; and the insanitary conditions thus detected are dealt with every month by the Public Health Committee.

Nearly all the houses in the Borough have "sufficiency of open space" about them, and due supervision is exercised by the Borough Surveyor over the erection of new ones.

Your Borough Accountant tells me there are "only 15 empty houses at the present time" (23rd February, 1910) and that "nearly all of them are large private dwelling houses. Small and moderately "rented cottages are in great demand, and are never void."

There is little doubt that if more cottages were available, they would be occupied; but as some new streets are about to be laid out, I am not yet prepared to advise you to utilize your powers under Part III. of the Housing Act, 1909.

Water Supply.

The water-supply of the Borough, which as you know, gravitates from the oolite formation in the Cotswold Hills at Broadway, con-

tinues to be satisfactory in every way. The monthly bacteriological analyses made by the County Analyst show entire freedom from pollution, and the gathering ground is such that there is no risk of contamination.

The new reservoir near to Broadway has been roofed over with ferro-concrete, and as it has a capacity of 2,000,000 gallons, it was not necessary to turn off the water at night during any part of the year, as had to be done before it was erected.

Dairies and Cowsheds.

There are 12 "purveyors" of milk and 5 "dairymen" at present on the "Register," as compared with 13 of the former and 4 of the latter in 1909.

The dairymen referred to in my last report as having "promised to put (his dairy) in Order" has done so. One of the "milk purveyors" has made the requisite improvement of his premises. Most of the milk supplied in the Borough comes from outside: and chiefly from the Evesham Rural District, where a vigilant watch is kept by the local Inspector.

I specially commend the paragraph in my "General Observations" (p. 3) with regard to milk to your consideration.

Sewerage.

All parts of the Borough are thoroughly sewered. Although the effluent from the sewage outfall works, which passes into the Avon, has been decidedly improved by providing percolating filters, I know you realize that the disposal works are not as satisfactory, from a river pollution point of view, as they ought to be. Consequently application has been made to the Local Government Board for a loan of £9,000 to put down other installations of like character. I have no hesitation in saying that the course now being pursued is the right one, and that "land treatment," owing to the tenacious character of the subsoil, would be worse than useless. The four "contact beds," (a system I never liked) which contain nearly 3,000 cubic yards of filtering media, have been thoroughly washed. I understand that if the additions about to be made to the outfall works are eventually found to be insufficient for the fast-growing requirements of the Borough, that these "contact beds" will be converted, as they easily can be, to "percolating filters."

The suggestion I made, that the ingress of subsoil water to the sewers should be sought without delay, has been taken in hand. In my opinion it is most important that such infiltration as it is practicable to prevent, should be stopped before the Local Government Board Inquiry as to the loan for outfall

closed, and another in Bewdley Street, re-opened. That in Oat Street closed in 1909 has been pulled down. A new floor, as well as "Dough Troughs" on wheels have been provided in another instance.

Lime washing in all cases has been attended to.

Common Lodging Houses.

The 3 Common Lodging Houses, although not "model ones" have been kept fairly clean. In one instance I called attention to infringement of the regulations with regard to bed-making, and your Inspector tells me that this has not occurred since.

I append the report of your Sanitary Inspector, who is also your Borough Surveyor.

Your obedient servant,

G. H. FOSBROKE, D.P.H., Camb.,

County Medical Officer.

SHIREHALL, WORCESTER,

March, 1911.

Inspector's Report of the Sanitary Work completed in the year
ending 31st December, 1910.

Prevention of Infectious Disease under direction of Medical Officer of Health.	No. of cases enquired into - - - -	41
	No. of houses disinfected and cleansed - -	41
	No. of patients removed to Hospital - -	31
	Lots of bedding, clothing, etc., disinfected or destroyed - - - -	41
	Cases of illegal exposure reported - -	—
Houses.	No. erected (if information obtainable) - -	18
	No. made fit for habitation - - - -	51
	No. closed as unfit for habitation - - -	6
	No. cleansed and lime-washed - - - -	20
Overcrowding.	No. of cases abated - - - - -	—
House-drains.	No. laid or re-laid - - - - -	39
	No. cleansed, trapped and ventilated - - -	60
	No. of defective waste-pipes rectified - - -	31
	No. of insanitary lavatories, sinks and urinals rectified - - - - -	7
	No. of dumb wells rectified - - - - -	—
Water Closets.	No. of additional W. C.'s provided - - -	55
	No. repaired, ventilated and supplied with flush cisterns - - - - -	67
Privies and Ash-pits.	No. of additional privies and ashpits provided - -	—
	No. converted to W.C.'s or slop-closets - -	—
	No. converted to pail-closets - - - -	—
	No. repaired - - - - -	—
Dust Receptacles (portable).	No. of new dust receptacles provided - -	20
Scavenging.	Total No. of houses from which refuse removable	1754
	Total No. of privies and ashpits cleansed - -	—
	Total No. of portable receptacles cleansed - -	—
	Total No. of loads of ashes and excrement removed - - - - -	52
	Total No. of loads of ashes and refuse removed	2084
Smoke Nuisances.	No. under observation,—New Produce Factory -	1
	No. abated - - - - -	—
Offensive Trades.	No. under observation - - - - -	—
	No. improperly conducted - - - - -	—
Water Supply.	No. of wells sunk - - - - -	—
	No. of wells cleansed and repaired - - -	—
	No. of wells closed as polluted - - - -	—
	No. of houses supplied from waterworks (during year) - - - - -	—
	No. of samples of water sent for analysis - -	24
	No. of samples of sewage effluents - - -	4
Slaughter-houses.	No. registered or licensed - - - - -	4
	No. regularly inspected - - - - -	4
	No. cleansed and repaired - - - - -	1

Factories and Workshops.	No. under inspection - - - - -	179
	No. certified for lime-washing by Inspector -	4
	No. of insanitary conditions dealt with as nuisances -	4
	No. employing "young persons," etc., reported to Medical Officer of Health - - - - -	—
Shop Hours Act.	No. of shops under supervision - - - - -	—
	No. of contraventions of Act dealt with - - - - -	—
Dairies and Cowsheds.	No. of persons engaged in milk trade now on Register and under supervision - - - - -	17
	No. of contraventions of Acts, Orders, and Bye-laws dealt with - - - - -	2
	No. of infected milk supplies reported by Inspector -	—
Canal Boats.	No. of boats on Register - - - - -	—
	No. of boats registered during year - - - - -	—
	No. of certificates renewed - - - - -	—
	No. of boats inspected (for registration or otherwise) - - - - -	—
	No. of contraventions of Acts and Regulations dealt with - - - - -	—
Lodging Houses.	No. on Register - - - - -	3
	No. regularly inspected - - - - -	3
	No. cleansed and repaired - - - - -	3
Food.	No. of seizures as unfit for consumption - - - - -	—
Food and Drugs Act.	No. of samples taken for analysis - - - - -	—
	No. of samples certified genuine - - - - -	—
	No. of samples certified adulterated - - - - -	—
Animals kept so as to be a Nuisance.	No. of cases of removal on notice - - - - -	1
Accumulation of house refuse.	No. of removals - - - - -	5
Legal proceedings	No. taken - - - - -	—
	No. of convictions obtained - - - - -	—
	No. of cases withdrawn or dismissed - - - - -	—
Clerical Work.	No. of official letters written - - - - -	48
	No. of notices served : Public Health 118, Water wasting 189 - - - - -	307
	No. of notices complied with - - - - -	271
	No of notices outstanding - - - - -	26

Remarks :

Fewer houses than usual were built during the year, but more sites have now been put upon the market, and plans for Dwelling Houses are coming in much faster. A new concentrated Produce Factory has been opened. Messrs. Willmott's Factory has been enlarged to nearly double its former size. Several other buildings of the warehouse and business class have been rebuilt and improved. Two Courts have been paved with impervious material. Plans and Estimates for a new Bye-pass Road and Bridge over the Avon have been forwarded to the Roads Board. The Streets at the Four Corners have been widened. Plans for a proposed new Street on Greenhill have been passed. Plans for more new Streets are being proposed, and I hope this year will see the completion of King's Road, and a better approach to the Sanatorium.

(Signed) H. S. HARVEY,

23rd January, 1911.

Borough Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

To the Evesham Rural District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1910, and to ask you to consider it in conjunction with the "General Observations" given as a preface.

Copies will, as usual, be forwarded to the Local Government Board, Secretary of State, and the County Council.

Statistical Data.

The following Tables I, III, IV, and V, are given as required by the Local Government Board.

Table II is omitted, as it is not applicable to the Evesham Rural District.

TABLE I.

YEAR.	Population estimated to the end of 1910.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.		DEATHS AT ALL AGES. TOTAL.		DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITU- TIONS.	Deaths of Non- Residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond District.	DEATHS AT ALL AGES. NET.	
		Number.	Rate.*	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.*				Number.	Rate.*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1900.	7,142	222	31.0	17	76	108	15.1	22	7	2	103	14.4
1901.	7,584	229	30.1	23	100	113	14.9	24	7	2	108	14.2
1902.	7,584	201	26.5	14	69	87	11.4	7	5	7	89	11.7
1903.	7,584	195	25.7	16	82	100	13.1	18	9	6	97	12.7
1904.	7,584	214	28.2	9	42	96	12.6	23	6	6	96	12.6
1905.	7,584	208	27.4	13	62	101	13.3	24	11	9	99	13.0
1906.	7,820	204	26.0	8	39	126	16.1	26	15	6	117	14.9
1907.	8,820	211	26.9	17	80	120	15.3	29	16	5	109	13.9
1908.	8,900	192	24.3	13	67	121	15.3	21	12	2	111	14.0
1909.	8,900	211	26.7	15	71	116	14.1	29	19	5	102	12.4
Averages for years 1900-1909.	7,650	208	27.2	14	68	108	14.1	22	10	5	103	13.3
1910.	8,000	217	27.4	19	87	115	14.3	32	21	10	104	13.0

* Rates calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

NOTE.—The deaths to be included in Column 7 of this table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district or division. The deaths to be included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of illness, and dying there, and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of illness, and have died elsewhere.

Table II is omitted as it is not applicable to the Borough.

TABLE III.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1910.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.							Total cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upwards.	
Small-pox								
Cholera								
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	5		1	4				5
Erysipelas	2							
Scarlet Fever	4		1	1	1	1		4
Typhus Fever								
Enteric Fever								
Relapsing Fever								
Continued Fever								
Puerperal Fever								
Plague								
Consumption								
Totals	11		2	5	1	1		9

TABLE IV.

Causes of, and ages at, Death during Year 1910.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.						
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.
Small-pox							
Measles							
Scarlet Fever							
Whooping-cough							
Diphtheria and membranous croup							
Croup							
Fever { Typhus							
{ Enteric							
{ Other continued							
Epidemic influenza	2					1	1
Cholera							
Plague							
Diarrhœa							
Enteritis	4	1	1		1	1	
Puerperal fever							
Erysipelas							
Other septic diseases							
Phthisis	*5			1	1	3	
Other tubercular diseases							
Cancer, malignant disease	10					3	7
Bronchitis	7	1				3	3
Pneumonia	2	1				1	
Pleurisy	1					1	
Other diseases of Respiratory organs	1		1				
Alcoholism							
Cirrhosis of liver							
Venereal diseases							
Premature birth	7	7					
Diseases and accidents of parturition	1				1		
Heart diseases	14					6	8
Accidents							
Suicides	1					1	
Senile decay	18						18
.....							
.....							
.....							
All other causes	31	7	3			10	11
All causes	104	17	5	1	3	30	48

* One of these was a pauper chargeable to Evesham Borough.

TABLE V.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1910.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks	Total under 1 month	1-2 Months	2-3 Months	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
ALL CAUSES	Certified . Uncertified	9 1			1	10 1	1	2	1		1			1				16 1
Common Infectious Diseases.	Small Pox																	
	Chicken Pox ..																	
	Measles																	
	Scarlet Fever ..																	
	Diphtheria: including Membranous Croup																	
Diarrhoeal Diseases.	Whooping Cough																	
	Diarrhoea, all forms																	
	Enteritis, Muco- enteritis, Gastro- enteritis								1									1
Wasting Diseases.	Gastritis, Gastro- intestinal Catarrh																	
	Premature Birth	6			1	7	1											8
	Congenital Defects	1				1												1
	Injury at Birth .																	
	Want of Breast Milk, Starvation Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus																	
Tuberculous Diseases.	Tuberculous Meningitis																	
	Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes Mesenterica																	
	Other Tubercu- lous Diseases																	
	Erysipelas																	
Other Causes.	Syphilis																	
	Rickets																	
	Meningitis (not Tuberculous)																	
	Convulsions ..	1				1		1										2
	Bronchitis													1				1
	Laryngitis																	
	Pneumonia																	
	Suffocation, overlying																	
	Other causes ..	2				2		1			1							4
		10			1	11	1	2	1		1			1				17

Table I shows that 217 births were registered in 1910, and that the birth rate amounted to 27·4 per 1,000 of the population; as compared with an average rate during the 10 years 1900—1909 of 27·2. The corresponding rate of England and Wales amounted to 24·8 per 1,000 of the population, a rate which is 0·8 per 1000 below that in 1909, and lower than the rate in any other year on record. Compared with the average in the 10 years 1900—1909, the birth rate of your district is much the same as the average (27·2) for the 10 years 1900—1909.

Table I shows that the total number of deaths registered in the Evesham Rural District in 1910 was 115, and that the death rate upon this basis amounted to 14·3. On the other hand the “net death rate,” arrived at by excluding “deaths of non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District” and including “deaths of residents registered in Public Institutions” outside, but who belonged to it, equalled 13·0.

Last year (Table I) there were 10 deaths of “residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the district” who belonged to the Evesham Rural District, viz. : Powick Asylum 6, Worcester Infirmary 2, Evesham Cottage Hospital 2. On the other hand there were 21 deaths of persons in the Workhouse who did not belong to the District, viz. : Evesham Borough 14, Gloucestershire parishes 7.

The death rate in England and Wales in 1910 was 13·4 per 1,000 which was 1·1 per 1000 below the rate in 1909, and lower than the rate in any other year on record; compared with the average rate in the 10 years 1900-09, the death rate in 1910 showed a decrease of 2·4 per 1,000.

The “infantile mortality” of 1910 was 115 per 1,000 births registered. Details are given in Table V which shows that 8 of the 17 deaths were due to “premature birth.”

With the view of lessening this loss of life, various circulars as to the upbringing of infants are sent to mothers who are attended by midwives.

Table VI shows that the local zymotic death rates, as compared with those of England and Wales, are favourable.

TABLE VI.
Rates per 1,000 of population.

	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.		Principal Epidemic Diseases.	Smallpox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Whooping Cough.	Fever.	Diarrhoea.	Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 Births.
		Crude.	Corrected.									
Evesham Rural District	27·4	14·3	13·0	0·0	0·0	0·0	0·0	0·0	0·0	0·0	0·0	87
England and Wales	24·8	13·4	13·4	0·9	0·0	0·23	0·06	0·12	0·24	0·05	0·29	106

Scarlet Fever.

Table VII shows the monthly incidence of Scarlatina.

TABLE VII.

Locality.	No. of cases in each month.	Total.	Dates of fatal cases.
Badsey	Feb. (1),	1	
Great Hampton	Jan. (1),	1	
Norton Littleton	Dec. (1).	1	
Wickhamford Manor	Feb. (1),	1	
	Jan. (1), Feb. (2), Dec. (1),	4	None.

Only 4 cases were notified, and these were treated at the Sanatorium.

Diphtheria.

Table VIII shows the monthly incidence of Diphtheria.

TABLE VIII.

Locality.	No. of Cases in each month.	Total.	Dates of fatal cases.
Bretforton	Sept. (1),	1	
Great Hampton	Dec. (1),	1	
Rous Lench	Sept. (2), Oct. (1),	3	
	Sept. (3), Oct. (1), Dec. (1),	5	None.

All these patients were under 15 years of age, and treated at the Sanatorium.

By the request of the Local Government Board I made a "Special Report" on the Rous Lench cases on October 24th last. I then expressed the opinion that the cases were due to antecedent diphtheritic sore throat of mild character, that this was accidental, and that the outbreak was in no way associated with insanitary conditions. As that Report was a full one, and the Board have a copy of it, I do not propose to go over the same ground now.

Typhoid Fever.

No case of Typhoid Fever was reported.

From what I have said it is obvious that the District was very free from "notifiable" diseases during the year.

Inflammation of the Eyes in Infants. (Ophthalmia Neonatorum).

You adopted the scheme outlined in Appendix E, and the Local Government Board have sanctioned the proposal to make this a notifiable disease.

Consumption (Phthisis).

Table IX shows the number of deaths and death rates due to Consumption during the past 10 years.

TABLE IX.

	1910	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901
No. of Deaths	4a	5	7	4	15	6	2	6	6	5
Death rate *	5.0	6.3	8.8	5.1	19.1	7.9	2.6	7.9	7.9	6.5
County Death Rate *	Not known	7.9	8.1	7.8	7.8	8.0	7.7	7.5	8.4	7.9

* Per 10,000 of the population.

(a) There was also another death in a pauper chargeable to the Borough.

3 cases were "notified" under the "Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulation 1908"; but none under the "voluntary arrangement."

As there were 4 deaths it is most probable that there were 16 to 20 cases in the District during the year which were not heard of. The poor-law cases were visited every 3 months by your Inspector who reported to me quarterly.

Leaflets of instruction were circulated and advice was given, and disinfection, when requisite, carried out.

My suggestion as to treating "advanced" cases (*i.e.* : patients not in the first stage of the disease) at your Small-pox Hospital has not met with any response; and I am sorry to say that Mr. Ingledew's proposal to retain a bed at the "Knightwick Sanatorium" was defeated by a large majority. In my opinion more active measures will have to be taken before long, to suppress this infectious and fatal disease. The sanction of the Local Government Board for making Consumption compulsorily notifiable could not be obtained (See "General Observations" p. 7)

Isolation Hospital.

42 patients were treated in the Evesham Sanatorium (the Joint Isolation Hospital) during the year. The districts from which they come are given on page 19.

There was no death in the Institution in 1910.

This Hospital is quite sufficient for the requirements of the three districts it serves.

Your Joint Small-pox Hospital is well adapted to meet local requirements; and is kept in constant readiness, but I am glad to say has not been made use of for some years.

Disinfection.

All articles known to be infected by "notifiable" diseases are disinfected in the "Thresh Apparatus" at the Sanatorium. I presented a Memorandum on "Disinfection" (Appendix C.) in my last Annual Report, which gives my views as to efficient processes. The "disinfection" carried out in your District is quite "up-to-date," the "Alformant Lamp" and the "Mackenzie Sprayer" being used.

House Accommodation.

I commend the Memorandum given as Appendix C. to your consideration, as it shows what the administrative responsibilities of Local Authorities are, under the "Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909."

Immediately this Act came into force your Inspector was instructed to enforce it, and of course did so; furthermore, as soon as the "records" (see Appendix C.) which the Local Government Board require should be kept, were issued, he was appointed to compile them. 16 houses have been represented to be unfit for habitation, and 10 "closing orders" (9 of which have become operative) have been issued. Your Inspector's Annual Report gives other details of work carried out under this Act. Only 27 houses were erected in 1910 as compared with 59 in 1909; Mr. Holloway says "this is to be regretted, as cottages "are needed in several parts of this district. The dearth of "cottages was noticeable when closing orders were issued and in "several cases the people entered the Workhouse or went into "lodgings." This is a serious state of things, and one which does not now come up for the first time; for you will recollect that on June 11th, 1907, the County Council held an Inquiry at Evesham "in regard to the need of labourers' dwellings in the "Evesham Rural District, and especially at Broadway."

Quite recently certain householders in Broadway made a "representation" that more cottages in that village are needed, and this was forwarded to you by the Parish Council who expressed sympathy with it. As this will again raise the question of providing cottages for the "Working Classes" under Part III. of the "Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909," I think it desirable to give some extracts from the County Committee's Report which was issued on 22nd July, 1907, as follows:

“The Parishes, for our Inquiry, may be grouped as follows :—

“1. Parishes where there is a local demand for cottages exceeding
“the supply.

“2. Parishes where the demand for cottages has been or is being
“met in whole or in part.

“3. Parishes where exceptional local circumstances exist which
“reduce the supply of cottages.

“10. As to the first, this applies to most of the Parishes in the
“District but chiefly to the Lenches, Norton and Lenchwick, Offen-
“ham, and Sedgeberrow. In each of these Parishes it was stated that
“no new cottages were being built, and as the old ones either become
“uninhabitable for want of repair or were pulled down, persons had to
“leave the Districts. Complaints of Persons who for want of cottages
“had to live in barns and hovels were made at the Lenches, but these
“appear to have been cases of Pea-pickers and casual labourers. There
“however seems to be a want of sufficient cottages to keep the people
“in the localities, and this want also operates as a bar to any fresh
“people coming.

“11. In Badsey, Wickhamford, Bretforton, and The Littletons,
“there is a demand for cottages, but a good deal of building has taken
“place of recent years, with the result that to some extent the demand
“has been met; but still it was alleged that in all these places more
“cottages are wanted. In Wickhamford it was stated that the land-
“owners had put up cottages as otherwise they could not let out their
“land in small holdings. The same was said to be the case in Bret-
“forton. In Badsey a number of cottages have lately been built as a
“speculation by outsiders. In The Littletons the Bidford Co-operative
“Society, which includes those Parishes in its area of operations, had
“enabled its members by advances from its Building Society funds to
“put up cottages to meet the demand.

“12. Exceptional circumstances exist at Hampton, Cleeve Prior,
“Harvington and Broadway, causing an alleged dearth of cottages;
“Hampton being close to Evesham, but outside the Borough, persons
“are desirous of living there to avoid the Borough Rates; so cottages
“there are in great demand. This however appears only the usual case
“of a country parish adjoining an Urban District when the deficiency
“is created by persons desiring to come into the Parish rather than
“from insufficient houses for the parishioners themselves.

“13. Harvington is in some degree in the same position; it adjoins
“Norton and Lenchwick, the whole of which Parish except the Glebe
“is the property of one owner, who does not care to build. All the
“existing cottages are occupied by his workmen or tenants. The Nor-
“ton people who want cottages are therefore driven elsewhere, and as
“they object to go into the Borough on account of the higher rates they
“select Harvington. That Village therefore has to provide for its own
“people and also for all the Norton and Lenchwick people who want
“cottages. This makes the demand greater than the supply.

“14. There is another cause which operates both at Harvington and Cleeve Prior, and which we are told is an increasing cause for the scarcity of cottages. During the last few years it has become fashionable among people who live in Birmingham and other towns to spend their week ends in the country, and the Avon has become and is becoming more and more a fashionable week-end resort. Persons buy or take cottages in the villages or near the river for themselves and families, and by giving higher rents than the labouring classes can afford to pay, further limit the supply. At present it does not appear to us that this cause has operated in any Worcestershire Parish to anything like the extent it has done at Bidford, but it is an increasing cause of shortness of supply that must not be lost sight of.

“15. We are informed that at Church Honeybourne there was likely to be a great demand for cottages caused by the Railway workmen; but at present the demand has not arisen. Here we are told that cottages are at the present time vacant and tenants could not be found.

“16. Broadway is an exceptional case and stands alone. There can be no doubt there is a serious shortage of cottages here, arising partly from the general causes that so few new cottages are built, partly from exceptional causes, such as that Broadway has become a fashionable resort and persons have converted cottages into residences, artists who have gone to live there have bought and fitted up old cottages for themselves, while some of the oldest and worst cottages have been closed by the Sanitary Authorities, and no new ones have been built to supply their place. There is also a temporary reason, a new sewerage scheme has been carried out and the cost of connecting the house drains with the sewers has in one case at least led the owner to convert three cottages into one house. The combination of these causes and the fact that no new cottages have been built of late years has caused in Broadway a pressing need for further cottages.

“17. This need is fully recognised so much so that it was proposed to start a Company to build cottages. This scheme has however been abandoned as a private owner is about to commence building eight cottages, and we are informed when these have been erected he is prepared to build more if he finds them required.

“18. We have stated the effect of the evidence given to us, which may be summarized as follows:—

- “1. There is a present shortage of cottages in all but one of the Parishes in the Evesham Rural District, and in that one it is anticipated there will soon be a shortage.
- “2. This shortage arises from the fact that—
 - “(a) The children grow up, marry and require houses.
 - “(b) That cottages are closed and pulled down under the Sanitary Acts.

“(c) That no new cottages are built.

“(d) That in some of the Parishes local causes exist such as
“we have already enumerated which increase the short-
“age.

“3. That this shortage seems likely to increase.

“4. That from the evidence before us it appears that in this
“District the shortage has the following results : —

“(1). It drives the young people into the town as they are
“unable to stay in the country for lack of houses.

“(2) It prevents the land being fully developed and cultivated
“in small farms or holdings and compels the system of
“farms as against gardening to continue.

“(3) That if more cottages were provided the migration of
“the people from the country to the town would be to
“some extent stayed in the District.

“5. That if the population of this Rural District is to be main-
“tained dwellings must be provided to enable it to be done.

“19. We have not been directed to make any recommendations as
“to the remedy for the existing state of things or how further cottages
“should be provided. But we think we should point out that, as the
“law now stands, the County Council cannot in the first instance take
“any steps. The Authority to put the Acts in force is the District
“Council.

“35. We have not put forward any scheme in this Report for two
“reasons : (1) If the Council intends the Inquiry to extend to other
“Districts it is desirable to have the results of all the inquiries before
“trying to suggest any scheme to provide cottages. We therefore
“leave it to the Council to say whether they desire a scheme to be
“drawn up now, or the Inquiry extended. And (2) We consider that
“an opportunity should be given to the District Council, as the Authority
“charged by law with the duty of providing cottages, in the first to
“prepare a scheme that they consider suitable to meet the wants of
“their District.

“36. On their failing to do this, or failing to produce an adequate
“scheme in a reasonable time, we can if necessary report further on the
“matter.

RECOMMENDATION.

“37. We recommend that a copy of the Report be sent to the
“Evesham Rural District Council and their observations upon it be
“invited.”

(Signed) J. W. WILLIS BUND.
HENRY HOWARD.
FREDERIC IMPEY.
LIFFORD.

Shirehall, Worcester,
22nd July, 1907.

On May 19th, 1908, a Special Committee of the District Council held an Inquiry at Bretforton "in regard to the need of houses for "the working classes in the parish of Bretforton," and on June 29th, 1908, they presented a Report on the question which was widely circulated, and a copy sent to the County Council. The Committee stated: "It was generally admitted that owing to the "prosperity of the district 10 or 12 additional cottages were wanted "and would be let readily if provided at a strictly moderate rental "of £6 to £7 per annum, including rates."

I stated at this Inquiry that if my opinion were asked as to formulating a housing scheme in your district I should not fix on Bretforton as one of the first places to start with.

This Committee came to the conclusion that "no case (had) been "made out, rendering it either prudent, or necessary for the Council "to obtain or exercise the power of providing houses for letting "to the working classes in the parish of Bretforton."

Now however that the "Housing, Town-planning, etc., Act, 1909," is operative and that the number of Small Holdings continues to increase (and this is particularly imminent at Norton where 297 acres are about to be so dealt with), I think that this question of housing, as applied to the whole district, should be reconsidered.

In connection with this, it should be mentioned that this Act requires that before deciding that a Rural District Council is in default under Part III. (Working Classes Lodging Houses) the Local Government Board are required to take into consideration:

- (i). The necessity for further accommodation.
- (ii). The probability that the accommodation will not be otherwise provided, and the other circumstances of the case,
- (iii). Whether having regard to the liability which will be incurred by the rates it is prudent to undertake the provision of such work (S. 10. 21).

Water Supply.

Of the 17 parishes in your District, 11 are excellently supplied with wholesome water by gravitation from the Oolite formation in the Cotswold Hills at Broadway, and 1 (Norton) has a local supply. These schemes are admitted by all, to be a great boon to the Villages concerned.

Owing to the vigilance of your Inspector a monthly waste of 392,000 gallons of water in the parishes of Great Hampton, Wickhamford, Badsey and Aldington was stopped. This saved £36 per month, the amount paid for the water. The other Villages are bountifully supplied by wells; and except at Offenham there is as yet no evidence that these are polluted. If there is reason to suspect any well to be contaminated, your Inspector is instructed to obtain analyses and to deal with it as circumstances require.

The polluted state of the wells at Offenham is described in my last Annual Report. The Parish Council having considered the matter came to the conclusion that waterworks were necessary. The question of how this can be done has been referred to your Engineers (Messrs. Willcox, Raikes & Reed) who have not yet reported.

Milk Supply.

I specially commend the paragraph on milk supply which appears in my "General Observations" (page 3) to your consideration.

Your Inspector has revised the Register of Dairies and Cowsheds during the past year, and has caused many improvements of these places to be made. At the present time there are 34 registered Dairies and Cowsheds in the district as compared with 25 in 1909 and 23 in 1908. Almost without exception there were contraventions of the regulations when these premises were first registered; but they either have been, or shortly will be remedied. Your Inspector reports that "great difficulty is experienced in getting works carried out, as tenants (who are responsible under the Orders) are very unwilling to expend money upon "their Landlord's property."

I have mentioned this legal anomaly on more than one previous occasion; nevertheless the trade is conducted much better than it used to be.

There were 18 contraventions of the "Regulations" during the year.

*Sewerage.**Bretforton.*

Plans for sewerage this Village have now been sent to the Local Government Board, and before long no doubt a local "Inquiry" will be held. The scheme has been delayed owing to protracted negotiations as to the acquirement of a site for the outfall works.

Broadway.

I have again had to complain of the way in which the tenant of the sewage farm manages it. By his methods the sewage is only irrigated over a small part of the land. I met a Committee on the spot on November 1st, 1910, who decided that the tenant at once be required to fulfil his contract.

Your Inspector tells me that since then he has ploughed the land in such a way that sewage can be run over the whole of it. I shall inspect the works again before long. I do not think sewerage of "Station Road" can be postponed much longer, as the Inspector receives numerous complaints of the "dumb wells" in that locality.

Badsey.

The Badsey outfall works have been satisfactorily managed during the year.

Sedgeberrow.

The sewer ditch at the top of the village has been piped. Another one at the lower end is constantly complained of and should be kept thoroughly cleansed. A drainage scheme for this village will I think have to be considered before long.

South Littleton.

A new length of sewer has been laid; the small outfalls have been re-arranged and require careful supervision, otherwise brook pollution will not be obviated.

Church Lench.

An old sewer at the lower end of the village has been done away with, and a new 6 in. ventilated sewer substituted.

Harrington.

A 6 in. pipe sewage channel (set in concrete) for irrigation has been laid.

Now that you have decided to appoint a whole-time man to flush sewers and look after these outfall works, under the direction of your Sanitary Inspector, I have no doubt that they will be kept in better order.

Pollution of Rivers.

There is little pollution of streams in your district. As just mentioned the outfall works at Broadway have not been well managed, and the effluent into a ditch has been justifiably complained of. None of the local streams are used as sources of water supply.

Excrement Disposal.

In localities where sewers and water works are available, efforts are made to get W.C.'s substituted for middens. As Section 39 of the Public Health Amendment Act, 1907, is in force in North, Mid, and South Littletons, Badsey, Broadway and Hampton parishes, this is a comparatively easy matter. I cannot understand why the Local Government Board refused to allow the application of these powers to the parish of Bretforton, where there are similar water works and sewers.

Removal and Disposal of Refuse.

"Scavenging" is carried out by the occupiers of houses; the services of a "public scavenger" are not required in any part of the district.

Nuisances.

These are well looked after by your Inspector, whose report, shows what has been done during the year.

Byelaws.

Your bye-laws as to Nuisances, New Streets and Buildings and Slaughter-houses have been well enforced.

Schools.

The undermentioned Schools were closed in 1910.

The Littletons C.E. - -	28 Jan.	1 week	Coughs & Colds
Cleeve Prior C.E. - -	15 Feb.	3 days	Influenza
Great Hampton P. (Inf. Dept.)	26 May	7 days	Mumps
Harvington C.E. (Inf. Dep.)	7 June	14 days	Chickenpox
Ditto (Mixed Dept.) - -	14 June	8 days	Ditto
The Littletons C.E. - -	27 June	9 days	Mumps
The Littletons C.E. (Inf. Dept.)	11 July	5 days	Mumps
Rous Lench C.E. - -	27 Sept.	14 days	Diphtheria and Sore-throats
Offenham C. - - -	7 Nov.	5 days	Scabies

Your Inspector made a thorough sanitary inspection of the Schools in 1908, and caused several needed improvements to be made.

Slaughter-houses.

There are 7 Slaughter-houses in the District, all of which are as well kept as it is practicable for such places to be. One at Cleeve Prior is little used. An application has been recently received to "licence" a new one at Harvington, but as the premises are unsuitable I advised you not to grant the application, but to allow the butcher (who has just established a business) time to make other arrangements.

Factories and Workshops.

There are 109 "Workshops" in the District, *viz.*: 4 Bootmakers, 2 Basketmakers, 12 Blacksmiths, 4 Brewers, 12 Carpenters, 2 Laundries, 2 Tailors, 1 Saddler, 14 Bakehouses, 56 Gloveresses.

These are visited, and but 15 sanitary defects had to be dealt with.

There are no "Factories" under your jurisdiction.

Nine Bakers were required to cleanse or white-wash their bake-houses.

Pea Pickers.

A "canteen" was established at Norton and Lenchwick by Church of England Mission, and was much appreciated by the "Pea Pickers." The local pea pickers are better behaved than formerly, and the Police say they had no cause to complain

last year. The following "Resolutions" were passed at a Joint Conference of Representatives of the Worcestershire and Essex County Councils held in London on 15th April, 1910.

1. That it is desirable that this Conference should approach the Local Government Board asking them to consider the question of making compulsory, to the satisfaction of the County Medical Officers of Health, the provision of decent accommodation by those interested in the pea-picking industry.
2. That this Conference welcomes the suggestions of the Representatives of the Board of Trade, and pledges itself to urge the Local Authorities in the two counties to afford the Officers of the Board of Trade all the facilities in their power with a view to the engagement of pea-picking labour through the Labour Exchanges.

I append your Sanitary Inspector's Report for 1910.

Your obedient servant,

G. H. FOSBROKE, D.P.H., Camb.,

County Medical Officer.

SHIREHALL, WORCESTER,

February, 1911.

The Evesham Rural District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of submitting to you a Report of the Sanitary Work carried out during the past year.

In a new order issued by the Local Government Board in December last it is compulsory for the Sanitary Inspector to prepare a report annually. This is my third year of office, but previously I have only prepared a summary of the work.

Housing.

On December 3rd, 1909, the "Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act," came into force, but the forms of records, etc., were not issued until late in the following year. However, realising the value of this new Act, I commenced work under it in the early part of last year and before the forms, etc., were issued considerable work had been completed. I was duly appointed the officer authorised to carry out its provisions under the supervision of the Medical Officer of Health, and the forms, records, etc., have been used during the past four months. Resulting from this work "closing orders" were issued in 10 cases. Below I give a summary of the work under the Act.

Number of houses inspected	22
Number of inspections made	58
Houses represented as unfit for habitation	16
Closing orders made by Local Authority	10
„ „ become operative ..	9
Defects remedied without Closing Order	5
„ „ after Closing Order ..	2
Order to execute works under Sec. 15 ..	9
Works executed under Section 15 ..	3
Houses demolished	3

As a result of notices issued under the Public Health Acts 2 other houses were closed and 9 made fit for habitation, 14 houses were cleansed and lime-washed.

Only 27 houses have been erected during the past year as compared with 52 in the previous year. This is to be regretted, as there are undoubtedly cottages needed in several parts of the district, and if not erected by private enterprise it will devolve upon the Council to provide such cottages. This dearth of cottages was noticeable when closing orders were issued, and in several cases the people entered the work-house or went into lodgings.

Dairies and Cowsheds.

I have carefully revised the register of dairies, cowsheds, etc., and as a result a number of names have been removed owing to their giving up the business and a greater number have been added to the register, people who have never before been registered, and almost without exception there were contraventions of the Orders at these newly registered premises.

Thirty-four dairies, cowsheds, etc., are now registered as compared with 24 last year.

Eighteen contraventions were discovered and are being, or have been, remedied.

Great difficulty is experienced in getting works carried out, as tenants (who are responsible under the Orders) are very unwilling to expend money upon their landlord's property. This is particularly noticeable in this district where so much land is being acquired from the farms for small holdings.

For the remainder of my work I beg to refer you to the Summary appended.

Gentlemen, I am,

Your obedient servant,

E. HOLLOWAY, Cert. San. Insp. Exam. Brd. (London),
Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.

Inspector's Report of the Sanitary Work completed in the year
ending 31st December, 1910.

Prevention of Infectious Disease under direction of Medical Officer of Health.	No. of cases enquired into - - - -	13
	No. of houses disinfected and cleansed - -	10
	No. of patients removed to Hospital - -	9
	Lots of bedding, clothing, etc., disinfected or destroyed - - - -	12
	Cases of illegal exposure reported - - -	—
Houses.	No. erected (if information obtainable) - -	27
	No. made fit for habitation - - - -	16
	No. closed as unfit for habitation - - -	12
	No. cleansed and lime-washed - - - -	14
Overcrowding.	No. of cases abated - - - -	6
House-drains.	No. laid or re-laid - - - -	55
	No. cleansed, trapped and ventilated - -	42
	No. of defective waste-pipes rectified - -	5
	No. of insanitary lavatories, sinks and urinals rectified - - - -	4
	No. of dumb wells rectified - - - -	3
Water Closets.	No. of additional W. C.'s provided - - -	18
	No. repaired, ventilated and supplied with flush cisterns - - - -	6
Privies and Ash-pits.	No. of additional privies and ashpits provided -	16
	No. converted to W.C.'s or slop-closets - -	13
	No. converted to pail-closets - - - -	12
	No. repaired - - - -	13
Dust Receptacles (portable).	No. of new dust receptacles provided - -	—
Scavenging.	Total No. of houses from which refuse removable	—
	Total No. of privies and ashpits cleansed - -	—
	Total No. of portable receptacles cleansed - -	—
	Total No. of loads of ashes and excrement removed - - - -	—
	Total No. of loads of ashes and refuse removed	—
Smoke Nuisances.	No. under observation - - - -	—
	No. abated - - - -	—
Offensive Trades.	No. under observation - - - -	—
	No. improperly conducted - - - -	—
Water Supply.	No. of wells sunk - - - -	1
	No. of wells cleansed and repaired - - -	—
	No. of wells closed as polluted - - - -	—
	No. of houses supplied from waterworks (during year) - - - -	33
	No. of samples of water sent for analysis - -	17
Slaughter-houses.	No. registered or licensed - - - -	7
	No. regularly inspected - - - -	7
	No. cleansed and repaired - - - -	7

Factories and Workshops.	No. under inspection - - - - -	109
	No. certified for lime-washing by Inspector -	9
	No. of insanitary conditions dealt with as nuisances	6
	No. employing "young persons," etc., reported to Medical Officer of Health - - - - -	—
Shop Hours Act.	No. of shops under supervision - - - - -	—
	No. of contraventions of Act dealt with - - - - -	—
Dairies and Cowsheds.	No. of persons engaged in milk trade now on Register and under supervision - - - - -	34
	No. of contraventions of Acts, Orders, and Bye-laws dealt with - - - - -	18
	No. of infected milk supplies reported by Inspector	—
Canal Boats.	No. of boats on Register - - - - -	—
	No. of boats registered during year - - - - -	—
	No. of certificates renewed - - - - -	—
	No. of boats inspected (for registration or otherwise) - - - - -	—
	No. of contraventions of Acts and Regulations dealt with - - - - -	—
Lodging Houses.	No. on Register - - - - -	—
	No. regularly inspected - - - - -	—
	No. cleansed and repaired - - - - -	—
Food.	No. of seizures as unfit for consumption - - - - -	—
Food and Drugs Act.	No. of samples taken for analysis - - - - -	—
	No. of samples certified genuine - - - - -	—
	No. of samples certified adulterated - - - - -	—
Animals kept so as to be a Nuisance.	No. of cases of removal on notice - - - - -	8
Accumulation of offensive refuse.	No. of removals . - - - -	11
Legal proceedings	No. taken - - - - -	—
	No. of convictions obtained - - - - -	—
	No. of cases withdrawn or dismissed - - - - -	—
Clerical Work.	No. of official letters written - - - - -	268
	No. of notices served - - - - -	92
	No. of notices complied with - - - - -	78
	No of notices outstanding - - - - -	14

Remarks :

(Signed) E. HOLLOWAY,

(Cert. S.I. Exam. Brd., London),

9th February, 1911.

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

To the Pershore Rural District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1910, and to ask you to consider the "General Observations" made, as a preface.

Copies will, as usual, be forwarded to the Local Government Board, Secretary of State, and the County Council.

Statistical Data.

The following Tables I, III, IV, and V, are given as required by the Local Government Board.

Table II is omitted, as it is not applicable to the Pershore Rural District.

TABLE I.

YEAR.	Population estimated to the end of 1910.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.		DEATHS AT ALL AGES. TOTAL.		DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITU- TIONS.	Deaths of Non- Residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond District.	DEATHS AT ALL AGES. NET.	
		Number.	Rate.*	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.*				Number.	Rate.*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1900.	13,086	324	24.7	32	98	237	18.1				237	18.1
1901.	12,813	315	24.6	25	79	161	12.5				161	12.5
1902.	12,813	323	25.2	22	68	182	14.2			8	190	14.8
1903.	12,813	309	24.1	20	61	158	12.1	18	1	11	168	13.1
1904.	12,813	286	22.3	27	94	177	13.8	17	2	5	180	14.0
1905.	12,813	286	22.3	27	94	194	15.1	21	2	5	197	15.3
1906.	12,810	319	24.8	26	81	183	14.2	15	—	9	192	14.9
1907.	12,810	280	21.8	27	96	170	13.2	15	2	3	171	13.3
1908.	12,800	303	23.6	30	99	197	15.3	18	—	10	207	16.1
1909.	12,700	293	23.0	24	81	213	16.7	28	1	9	221	17.4
Averages for years 1900-1909.	12,827	303	23.6	26	85	187	14.5	19	1	7	192	14.9
1910.	12,700	279	21.9	21	75	161	12.6	11	—	3	164	12.9

* Rates calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

NOTE.—The deaths to be included in Column 7 of this table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district or division. The deaths to be included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of illness, and dying there, and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of illness, and have died elsewhere.

Table II is omitted as it is not applicable to the District.

TABLE III.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1910.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.							Total cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upwards.	
Small-pox								
Cholera								
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	7		1	4		1		0
Erysipelas	7							
Scarlet Fever ..	31		10	16	3	2		31
Typhus Fever ..								
Enteric Fever ..								
Relapsing Fever ..								
Continued Fever ..								
Puerperal Fever ..	1					1		
Plague								
Consumption ..								
Totals ..	46		11	20	3	4		31

TABLE IV.

Causes of, and ages at, Death during Year 1910.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.						
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and up-wards.
Small-pox							
Measles	1	1					
Scarlet Fever							
Whooping-cough							
Diphtheria and mem- branous croup	1			1			
Croup							
Fever { Typhus							
{ Enteric							
{ Other continued							
Epidemic influenza	2						2
Cholera							
Plague							
Diarrhœa							
Enteritis	8	1	2	2		1	2
Puerperal fever							
Erysipelas							
Other septic diseases							
Phthisis	6				1	5	
Other tubercular di- seases	6	1	2		1	2	
Cancer, malignant di- sease	14					10	4
Bronchitis	11	2	1			2	6
Pneumonia	7	1	1			2	3
Pleurisy							
Other diseases of Res- piratory organs	1			1			
Alcoholism							
Cirrhosis of liver }	1					1	
Venereal diseases							
Premature birth	2	2					
Diseases and accidents of parturition	2					2	
Heart diseases	26			1		8	17
Accidents	3		1		1	1	
Suicides							
Senile decay	21					1	20
.....							
.....							
.....							
All other causes	52	13	2	1	1	12	23
All causes	164	21	9	6	4	47	77

TABLE V.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1910.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks	Total under 1 month	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
ALL CAUSES	Certified . Uncertified	7 2	1			8 2	1	2	2	1		1	1	1	1		1	18 3
Common Infectious Diseases.	Small Pox																	
	Chicken Pox																	
	Measles							1										1
	Scarlet Fever																	
	Diphtheria: including Membranous Croup																	
Diarrhoeal Diseases.	Whooping Cough																	
	Diarrhoea, all forms																	
	Enteritis, Mucosenteritis, Gastro-enteritis								1		1							2
Wasting Diseases.	Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh																	
	Premature Birth	2				2												2
	Congenital Defects	5	1			6	1											7
	Injury at Birth .																	
	Want of Breast Milk, Starvation																	
Tuberculous Diseases.	Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus																	
	Tuberculous Meningitis												1		1			2
	Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes Mesenterica																	
	Other Tuberculous Diseases																	
	Erysipelas																	
Other Causes.	Syphilis																	
	Rickets																	
	Meningitis (not Tuberculous)																	
	Convulsions	1				1		1						1				3
	Bronchitis	1				1		1										2
	Laryngitis																	
	Pneumonia						1											1
	Suffocation, overlying																	
	Other causes ..															1		1
		9	1			10	1	2	2	1		1	1	1			1	21

Table I shows that 279 births were registered in 1910, and that the birth rate amounted to 21·9 per 1,000 of the population; as compared with an average rate during the 10 years 1900—1909 of 23·6. The corresponding rate of England and Wales for 1910 amounted to 24·8 per 1,000 of the population, which is 0·8 per 1,000 below that in 1909, and lower than the rate in any other year on record. Compared with the average in the 10 years 1900—1909, your birth rate in 1910 showed a decrease of 1·7 per 1,000. The regrettable decline in the birth rate continues not only in your district but also in the country generally.

To some extent however this is counterbalanced by the general decrease in the infantile mortality; nevertheless, as I have mentioned in former Reports, such lowering of the birth rate is deplorable, and if continued must affect the national welfare.

Table I shows that the total number of deaths registered in the Pershore Rural District in 1910 was 161, and that the death rate upon this basis amounted to 12·6. The “net death rate,” arrived at by excluding “deaths of non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District” and including “deaths of residents registered in Public Institutions” outside, but who belonged to it, equalled 12·9.

Last year (Table I) there were 3 deaths of “residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the district,” who belonged to the Pershore Rural District, viz.: Powick Asylum 2, Evesham Cottage Hospital 1.

The death rate in England and Wales in 1910 was 13·4 per 1,000 which was 1·1 per 1,000 below the rate in 1909, and lower than the rate in any other year on record; compared with the average rate in the 10 years 1900-09, the death rate in 1910 showed a decrease of 2·4 per 1,000.

The “infantile mortality” of 1910 was very low, viz., 75 per 1,000 births registered; details of these deaths are given in Table V.

Table VI shows that the local zymotic death rates, as compared with those of England and Wales, are favourable.

TABLE VI.

Rates per 1,000 of population.

	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.		Principal Epidemic Diseases.	Smallpox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Whooping Cough.	Fever.	Diarrhœa.	Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 Births.
		Crude.	Corrected.									
Pershore Rural District	21·9	12·6	12·9	0·15	0·0	0·07	0·0	0·07	0·0	0·0	0·0	75
England and Wales	24·8	13·4	13·4	0·9	0·0	0·23	0·06	0·12	0·24	0·05	0·29	106

Scarlatina.

Table VII shows the monthly incidence of Scarlatina in 1910.

TABLE VII.

Locality.	No. of cases in each month.	Total.	Dates of fatal cases.
Birlingham	Jan. (1),	1	
Bricklehampton	Feb. (1), April (2), Oct. (1),	4	
Charlton	June (1),	1	
Eckington	Jan. (1), Aug. (1), Sept. (1),	3	
Pershore	Jan. (1), Feb. (2), Mar. (2),		
	June (2), Nov. (3), Dec. (5),	15	
Strensham	Oct. (2), Nov. (2),	4	
Lower Strensham	Dec. (2).	2	
Wadborough	Dec. (1),	1	
	Jan. (3), Feb. (3), Mar. (2),		
	April (2), June (3), Aug. (1),	31	None.
	Sept. (1), Oct. (3), Nov. (5),		
	Dec. (8),		

In no instance was any outbreak epidemic. All these cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital, and the other usual precautionary measures adopted.

The disease was imported to Eckington from Birmingham; to Bricklehampton from Evesham; and to Strensham from the Upton-on-Severn District. Infectious children were discovered in the Strensham and Pershore Schools, and necessitated school closure for disinfection.

No outbreak was associated with milk. The general method of spread was direct infection, generally through unrecognized cases; a channel of dissemination now very common, since Scarlatina has assumed the light character it has done in recent years.

Diphtheria.

Table VIII shows the monthly incidence of Diphtheria in 1910.

TABLE VIII.

Locality.	No. of Cases in each month.	Total.	Dates of fatal cases.
Bishampton	Feb. (1),	1	
Birlingham	Nov. (2),	2	
Defford	Dec. (1),	1	
Eckington Fields	Oct. (1),	1	
Fladbury	Mar. (1),	1	
Spetchley Common	Dec. (1),	1	Dec., 1910
	Feb. (1), Mar. (1), Oct. (1),		
	Nov. (2), Dec. (2),	7	1

All these 7 cases were isolated at home, and it was not found necessary to provide a nurse under Section 67 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, as was the case in one instance during 1909.

No person consented to be removed to the Worcester Isolation Hospital; indeed the parents of the child who had the disease at Fladbury, preferred to close their shop, and isolate the case at home. Had you had a ward for diphtheria at your Isolation Hospital, I believe this would not have been so. The Fladbury and Spetchley schools were closed as a precautionary measure. Antecedent "Sore throat" of diphtheritic character was the cause of these outbreaks, except at Bishampton whither the disease was brought from Evesham.

Whooping Cough.

Whooping Cough was prevalent at Grafton Flyford, Peopleton and Spetchley, and necessitated closing of the local schools.

Typhoid Fever.

The district was quite free from Typhoid Fever during 1910.

Puerperal Fever.

One case occurred at Bricklehampton in January, and seems to have been associated with carelessness on the part of the occupants of the house in which it occurred. There were also certain local insanitary conditions which your Inspector dealt with.

Consumption (Phthisis).

Table IX gives the number of deaths and death rates per 10,000 of the population which occurred in your District during the years 1901-10.

TABLE IX.

	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910
No. of Deaths	17	11	10	17	22	13	13	17	20	6
Death rate *	13.2	8.5	7.8	13.2	17.1	10.1	10.1	13.2	15.7	4.7
County Death Rate *	7.9	8.4	7.5	7.7	8.0	7.8	7.8	8.1	7.9	Not known

* Per 10,000 of the population.

The average death rate per 10 000 for the past 10 years has been 11.3 as compared with the county rate of 7.9 and corresponding rates in the Borough and Evesham Rural District of 9.6 and 7.7 respectively.

This tabular statement shows that the District death rate in 1910 (4.7) was lower than in either of the 9 preceding years.

No case was "notified" last year either under the "Public Health" (Tuberculosis) Order, 1908, or by the "Voluntary Arrangement": although as there were 6 deaths there were probably from 24 to 30 cases in existence. You will recollect that when the Pershore Doctors a short time back sent you returns, their cases were few in number. I should therefore say that 4 of the deaths were certified by medical men who practiced in other parts of your District.

The suggestion I made in my Annual Report for 1908 as to the utilizing your Smallpox Hospital for "advanced" cases (*i.e.*: cases beyond the first stage of the disease) has met with no response: and the same can be said of recommendation as to the retaining a bed at the "Knightwick Sanatorium."

On the other hand you decided to purchase a "Shelter" for the use of any person who cared to avail himself of it, but this "Shelter" has not yet been bought. Some remarks on "Shelters" are made under "General Observations."

Isolation Hospital Accommodation.

The whole of the cases of Scarlatina "notified" during the year (31) were treated at the Isolation Hospital.

As you know your Hospital at Pershore affords no accommodation for patients suffering from infectious disease other than Scarlatina: consequently you passed a resolution authorising the removal of diphtheria patients to the Worcester Hospital "when such cases cannot be isolated at the patient's home." As yet no case has been sent to the Worcester Hospital.

No case of Smallpox occurred during the year, consequently your Smallpox Hospital, although kept in constant readiness by the resident Caretaker has not been used. I refer you to my "General Observations" upon Smallpox and Vaccination.

Disinfection.

The subject of "Disinfection" was discussed in my last Annual Report (Appendix C). I regret to again report that you have no apparatus for disinfecting bedding, clothing etc., consequently the disinfection of such articles is not complete.

The other methods of disinfecting carried out by your Inspector are however quite up-to-date, as you recently purchased an "Alfor-mant Lamp" and a "Mackenzie Sprayer" for his use.

House Accommodation.

The Board ask for information as to "Action under Parts I, II and III respectively of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, taken or needed." (Appendix A).

“Part I” has reference to “unhealthy areas,” and does not apply to your district.

Part II deals with “unhealthy dwelling-houses” and “town planning.”

As already explained (“General Observations”), your Inspector has been appointed to complete the “Records” under the “Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909,” which are described in detail in Appendix C, and specially alluded to in my 1909 Report; but at the close of the year this important work had not got into full swing. Last year 7 houses were made fit for habitation, 3 were closed as unfit for habitation and 10 were built.

In my 1907 Report I submitted a Special Report of your Sanitary Inspector upon the housing accommodation of your district, in which he wrote that there “are sufficient cottages for the needs of most of the parishes. Only in two parishes was I informed there is a need of cottages (Pinvin and Norton-juxta-Kempsey), and I know there is a need of medium sized houses in the town of Pershore, as they are very difficult to obtain. Some of the cottages are very small indeed, and not fit for large families. Usually I find the large families in the smallest cottages, and the smallest families in largest cottages. I do not think there are a great many cases of overcrowding, but there is great difficulty in finding them out. . . . In many cases owners will not let cottages to large families, and in consequence they go into any house they can get. . . . Many of the older class of cottages are composed of timber, wattle and thatch, and are often in bad repair. . . . Many have no ceilings under the bedroom floors, and dust and dirt fall through the open joints of the bedroom floor.”

From Mr. Moulson’s Annual Reports for 1901—1910 inclusive, I learn that 16 houses were closed, and 144 erected during that period; most of the latter were built at Pershore, Norton and Charlton.

It is not necessary in your District to take any action with regard to “Town Planning.”

Part III. of the Act has reference to the provision of Houses for the Working Classes, and is explained in my Annual Report for 1910 (Appendix A). I may remind you that it empowers a “Parish Council, Parish Meeting” or “four inhabitant householders” to make a representation to a Rural District Council that Houses for the Working Classes are needed, and that if the Rural District Council fails to take action, either of such complainants can appeal to the County Council or the Local Government Board; and the Local Government Board may make an “Order” directing the authority to carry out the requisite work; but before deciding that the District

Council is in default, the Local Government Board are required to take into consideration:—

- (i). The necessity for further accommodation.
- (ii). The probability that the accommodation will not be otherwise provided, and the other circumstances of the case,
- (iii). Whether having regard to the liability which will be incurred by the rates it is prudent to undertake the provision of such work (s. 10. 21).

On January 21st, 1911, the Pinvin Parish Council passed the following “ Resolution,” viz.—

“ That this Council call upon the Pershore Rural District Council “ to put in force the powers of the Housing, Town Planning Act, “ with a view to providing additional cottages for Pinvin, which are “ urgently needed.

The same Parish Council passed the following “ Resolution” on March 4th, 1911 :—

“ That this Council wishes to know definitely if it is the intention “ of the Pershore Rural District Council to refuse an application for “ houses without enquiring into the complaint or examination of the “ means afforded by the New Housing Act to provide accommodation “ when it is urgently needed as it is in this Village. On March 14th, your Council passed the following “ Resolution.” “ That when “ Pinvin has the Water-supply and the Sanitary Arrangements are “ satisfactory the Council will hold an Inquiry with reference to the “ provisions of the Housing, Town Planning Act, 1909, being carried “ out.

I have already mentioned that your Inspector is of opinion that there are sufficient cottages for the needs of most of the Parishes in your District, except in Pinvin and Norton-juxta-Kempsey.

I prefer however to express no opinion until I have had at least one year’s experience of the compilation of the “ Records” which the Board insist upon, and as to which definite information will have to be supplied to them.

In a district such as yours however, I think that this is a matter in which the fullest information will have to be obtained, and that it will be wise to “hasten slowly.”

It may however be of interest to you to know that the neighbouring Rural District Council of Chipping Campden (Gloucestershire) have already taken action under Rule III with regard to the Parish of Mickleton, and that the Evesham Rural District Council are now considering whether it is necessary to provide “ Working Classes Lodging Houses” for Broadway.

Water Supply.

I mentioned last year that I presented an exhaustive Report (dated August 1909) on the water supply of 17 of the 40 parishes in your District, and that I did not deal with the whole of them because you passed the following Resolution on the 5th January 1909:—

“The Medical Officer of Health having asked the Council if he “was to understand that he was to inquire into the water supplies “in these Parishes only for which he had already received instruc- “tions or whether he was to inquire into the whole of the Parishes “in the District.” It was proposed and carried “that the Medical “Officer of Health be asked to make a report upon those Parishes “only which were mentioned in his last Report and the other Parishes “for which he had the Council’s Instructions.” Hence my reason “for reporting on the 17 parishes only.

Copies of this Report were sent each member of your Council, the respective Parish Councils, the County Council, and the Local Government Board.

Subsequently a Committee of the County Council held a Local Inquiry and presented a Report, copies of which were sent to you and the Board. It is I think unnecessary to refer to the question further on the present occasion, except to say that by your direction Messrs Willcox, Raikes & Reed are now preparing a scheme for supplying Pershore and Pinvin with water from the Bredon Hills, by gravitation.

Beyond this so far as I know, no action has been taken upon the County Council Report.

Sewerage.

The defective drainage of Pershore and Pinvin “are still in abeyance “until some decision is come to with regard to the water supply of the “District (Annual Report 1909, p. 43).

No sewerage scheme has been carried out in any part of the District; but an important one for Whittington is about to be proceeded with.

Dairies and Cowsheds.

Some remarks with regard to the milk supplies are made in my “General Observations” (p. 3).

The number of “registered Dairymen” and “Purveyors” of Milk at the present time is 41, as compared with 30 in 1909. Each of these premises was inspected during the year, and 2 were dealt with under the “regulations.”

Slaughter-houses.

There are still 14 “registered Slaughter-houses,” 2 of which have been dealt with under the Byelaws. Three butchers were found to

be slaughtering without "licenses" and they were informed that they would have to be "licensed" and comply with the "Byelaws."

Only one has applied for a license.

Pollution of Streams.

The river Avon receives the whole of the sewage from the populated places on its banks—notably from Pershore and Fladbury. The volume of the stream however is large, and consequently there is no nuisance. This river is not used for domestic purposes in any part of its course; under the above circumstances the pollution is less objectionable than it otherwise would be. Sewage from Eckington and Charlton, flows into small watercourses, which need watching and cleansing from time to time, otherwise nuisance results.

Excrement Disposal.

The "midden system" is the general method of excrement disposal adopted; although there are W.C.'s in several parts of the district. This is necessarily so, as no place in the district has been "sewered," and except at Whittington there are no water works. I first called attention to the defective state of the middens at Pershore in a Special Report dated November, 1903.

As many of these have been re-constructed since then and the whole of them are scavenged by your men, their condition is decidedly improved; but even so, numbers require to be converted to W.C.'s—particularly those cleansed through houses—which cannot be done until the town is properly sewerred and provided with water.

Scavenging.

The town of Pershore is the only part of your district where public scavenging is carried out, indeed it is the only place in which it, at present, is needed. The scavenging is carried out under the direction of a "Parochial Committee," the work being supervised by your Sanitary Inspector, who tells me 440 ashpits were cleansed during the year, and 859 cart loads of refuse removed.

Byelaws.

So far as I am able to judge, your Bye-laws with respect to (a) New Streets and Buildings, (b) Slaughter houses, (c) Nuisances, and (d) Common Lodging houses, are carried out, your Sanitary Inspector being responsible for their administration.

Schools.

The undermentioned Schools were closed during 1910.

		Date Closed.	Period.	Disease.
Grafton Flyford C.E. -	-	8 Jan.	1 week (extended closure)	Whooping Cough
Peopleton C.E. -	-	8 Jan.	2 weeks	Ditto
Grafton Flyford C.E. -	-	24 Jan.	2 weeks and 4 days	Ditto
Spetchley, St. Ann's R.C. -	-	9 Mar.	Until after Easter Holidays	Ditto
Bishampton C.E. -	-	19 Mar.	Until after Easter Holidays	Mumps and Sore Throats
Spetchley, St. Ann's R.C. -	-	4 April	10 days (extended closure)	Whooping Cough
Fladbury C.E. -	-	4 April	5 days	As a precau- tionary measure, Diphtheria and Diphtheritic Sore Throat having occurred amongst the Scholars
Bishampton C.E. -	-	9 Apr.	5 days	Mumps
Strensham C.E. -	-	7 Nov.	10 days	Scarlet Fever
Pirton C.E. -	-	13 Dec.	9 days	Impetigo
Spetchley St. Ann's R.C. -	-	19 Dec.	9 days	Diphtheria

Your Inspector made a systematic sanitary survey of the Elementary Schools in your district during 1908, and his report is given in my Annual Report (pp. 49—51), for that year.

The alterations then carried out have resulted in marked improvement of the "Out-offices." Of the insanitary state of the Birlingham school closets your Inspector reported last year as follows: "Nothing done, beyond opening the drains which take the liquid out of the ashpit. No manager appointed yet." This year he writes: "Nothing has been done to the school at Birlingham, no Managers being yet appointed. I am however informed that new Managers will shortly be appointed, when this work will be dealt with."

This school is not an "Elementary School," but one of the "certified efficient" schools in the County; but even so you possess sanitary powers with regard to it, although the County Education Committee does not.

Common Lodging Houses.

The two common lodging houses in Pershore have been fairly well kept during the year, but the premises being old frequently need repair.

Hop-pickers.

There are only two hopyards in the District where imported labourers are employed, viz, 1 at Fladbury and 1 at Wick.

I reported last year that your new byelaws had enabled you to cause some improvement of the sheds in which the workpeople reside, to be carried out; but the lighting and ventilation of the Fladbury sheds were not as they ought to be. Since then windows have been put in with beneficial results. The "hoppers' sheds at Wick were repaved.

Pea Pickers.

The Police inform me that the pea-pickers were better conducted last year than formerly.

At a Conference between representatives of the Essex and Worcestershire County Councils, the following resolutions were passed:

1. "That it is desirable that this Conference should approach the Local Government Board asking them to consider the question of making compulsory, to the satisfaction of the County Medical Officers of Health, the provision of decent accommodation by those interested in the pea-picking industry."

2. "That this Conference welcomes the suggestions of the representatives of the Board of Trade, and pledges itself to urge on the Local Authorities in the two counties to afford the officers of the Board of Trade all the facilities in their power, with the view to the engagement of pea-picking labour through the Labour Exchanges."

The Worcestershire County Council also passed the following resolution on the 13th June, 1910:—

"That all information and assistance be furnished to the officers of the Board of Trade with a view to giving effect to Resolution No. 2, passed at the Conference on the above subject, and embodied in paragraph 17 of the foregoing report of the said Committee."

Factories and Workshops.

There are only 6 "Factories" in the District, and you have no sanitary control over them, as s. 22 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, which enables you to deal with defective closets, is not in force in the District.

These places are visited by His Majesty's Inspectors of Factories.

Thirty-three of the 49 "Workshops" in the District are "Bake-houses."

It was only necessary to call upon 4 bakers to limewash their premises during the year.

I append your Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Your obedient servant,

G. H. FOSBROKE, D.P.H., Camb.,

County Medical Officer.

SHIREHALL, WORCESTER,

February, 1911.

Inspector's Report of the Sanitary Work completed in the year
ending 31st December, 1910.

Prevention of Infectious Disease under direction of Medical Officer of Health.	No. of cases enquired into - - - -	37
	No. of houses disinfected and cleansed - -	40
	No. of patients removed to Hospital - -	31
	Lots of bedding, clothing, etc., disinfected or destroyed - - - -	3
	Cases of illegal exposure reported - - -	—
Houses.	No. erected (if information obtainable) - -	10
	No. made fit for habitation - - - -	7
	No. closed as unfit for habitation - - -	3
	No. cleansed and lime-washed - - - -	4
Overcrowding.	No. of cases abated - - - -	8
House-drains.	No. laid or re-laid - - - -	17
	No. cleansed, trapped and ventilated - -	14
	No. of defective waste-pipes rectified - -	3
	No. of insanitary lavatories, sinks and urinals rectified - - - -	1
	No. of dumb wells rectified - - - -	4
Water Closets.	No. of additional W. C.'s provided - - -	—
	No. repaired, ventilated and supplied with flush cisterns - - - -	2
Privies and Ash-pits.	No. of additional privies and ashpits provided -	17
	No. converted to W.C.'s or slop-closets - -	—
	No. converted to pail-closets - - - -	7
	No. repaired - - - -	10
Dust Receptacles (portable).	No. of new dust receptacles provided - -	10
Scavenging.	Total No. of houses from which refuse removable	—
	Total No. of privies and ashpits cleansed - -	440
	Total No. of portable receptacles cleansed - -	—
	Total No. of loads of ashes and excrement removed - - - -	850
	Total No. of loads of ashes and refuse removed	—
Smoke Nuisances.	No. under observation - - - -	—
	No. abated - - - -	—
Offensive Trades.	No. under observation - - - -	—
	No. improperly conducted - - - -	—
Water Supply.	No. of wells sunk - - - -	11
	No. of wells cleansed and repaired - - -	12
	No. of wells closed as polluted - - - -	—
	No. of houses supplied from waterworks (during year) - - - -	3
	No. of samples of water sent for analysis - -	12
Slaughter-houses.	No. registered or licensed - - - -	14
	No. regularly inspected - - - -	14
	No. cleansed and repaired - - - -	2

Factories and Workshops.	No. under inspection - - - - -	49
	No. certified for lime-washing by Inspector -	4
	No. of insanitary conditions dealt with as nuisances	—
	No. employing “young persons,” etc., reported to Medical Officer of Health - - - -	—
Shop Hours Act.	No. of shops under supervision - - - -	—
	No. of contraventions of Act dealt with - -	—
Dairies and Cowsheds.	No. of persons engaged in milk trade now on Register and under supervision - - -	41
	No. of contraventions of Acts, Orders, and Bye-laws dealt with - - - - -	2
	No. of infected milk supplies reported by Inspector	—
Canal Boats.	No. of boats on Register - - - - -	2
	No. of boats registered during year - - -	2
	No. of certificates renewed - - - - -	—
	No. of boats inspected (for registration or otherwise) - - - - -	—
	No. of contraventions of Acts and Regulations dealt with - - - - -	—
Lodging Houses.	No. on Register - - - - -	2
	No. regularly inspected - - - - -	2
	No. cleansed and repaired - - - - -	2
Food.	No. of seizures as unfit for consumption - -	—
Food and Drugs Act.	No. of samples taken for analysis - - -	—
	No. of samples certified genuine - - -	—
	No. of samples certified adulterated - - -	—
Animals kept so as to be a Nuisance.	No. of cases of removal on notice - - -	—
Accumulation of offensive refuse.	No. of removals - - - - -	15
Legal proceedings	No. taken - - - - -	1
	No. of convictions obtained - - - - -	—
	No. of cases withdrawn or dismissed - - -	1
Clerical Work.	No. of official letters written - - - - -	300
	No. of notices served - - - - -	63
	No. of notices complied with - - - - -	62
	No. of notices outstanding - - - - -	1

Remarks :

(Signed) F. W. MOULSON,

7th March, 1911.

Sanitary Inspector.

To the Feckenham Rural District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1910, and to ask you to consider it in conjunction with the "General Observations" and Appendices submitted in other parts of this pamphlet.

Copies will, as usual, be forwarded to the Local Government Board, Secretary of State, and the County Council.

Statistical Data.

The following Tables I, III, IV, and V, are given as required by the Local Government Board.

Table II is omitted, as it is not applicable to the Feckenham Rural District.

TABLE I.

YEAR.	Population estimated to the end of 1910.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.		DEATHS AT ALL AGES. TOTAL.		DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS in the District.	Deaths of Non-Residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond District.	DEATHS AT ALL AGES. NET.	
		Number.	Rate.*	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.*				Number.	Rate.*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1900.	5,744	129	22.4	16	124	90	15.6			5	95	16.5
1901.	5,532	131	24.4	14	106	69	12.4			5	74	13.3
1902.	5,532	107	19.3	12	102	56	10.1			4	60	10.8
1903.	5,532	108	19.5	9	83	63	11.3			7	70	12.6
1904.	5,532	141	25.4	13	92	62	11.2			10	79	13.0
1905.	5,532	126	22.7	15	119	81	14.6			6	87	15.7
1906.	5,532	136	24.5	11	80	68	12.2			9	77	13.9
1907.	5,500	145	26.3	10	68	54	9.8			10	64	11.6
1908.	5,500	123	22.3	7	56	72	13.0			5	77	14.0
1909.	5,450	108	19.8	14	130	75	13.7			6	81	14.8
Averages for years 1900-1909.	5,538	125	22.6	12	96	69	12.3	—	—	6	67	12.6
1910.	5,400	110	20.3	6	55	72	13.3	—	—	9	81	15.0

* Rates calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

NOTE.—The deaths to be included in Column 7 of this table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district or division. The deaths to be included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of illness, and dying there, and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of illness, and have died elsewhere.

Table II is omitted as it is not applicable to the District.

TABLE III.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1910.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.							Total cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upwards.	
Small-pox								
Cholera								
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	2		1			1		1
Erysipelas	3					2	1	
Scarlet Fever ..	20		1	17				20
Typhus Fever ..								
Enteric Fever ..	4			1	1			3
Relapsing Fever ..								
Continued Fever ..								
Puerperal Fever ..	1							
Plague								
Consumption ..								
Totals ..	30		2	18	1	3	1	24

5 ages not stated.

TABLE IV.

Causes of, and ages at, Death during Year 1910.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.						
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.
Small-pox							
Measles							
Scarlet Fever							
Whooping-cough							
Diphtheria and membranous croup							
Croup							
Fever { Typhus	2			1		1	
Enteric							
Other continued							
Epidemic influenza	3					3	
Cholera							
Plague							
Diarrhœa							
Enteritis	1	1					
Puerperal fever							
Erysipelas							
Other septic diseases							
Phthisis	5			1	1	3	
Other tubercular diseases							
Cancer, malignant disease	6					3	3
Bronchitis	1						1
Pneumonia	5	1				3	1
Pleurisy							
Other diseases of Respiratory organs	3	1					2
Alcoholism							
Cirrhosis of liver							
Venereal diseases							
Premature birth	2	2					
Diseases and accidents of parturition	1				1		
Heart diseases	13					2	11
Accidents	3		2	1			
Suicides							
Senile decay	20						20
.....							
.....							
.....							
All other causes	16	1	1	2		5	7
All causes	81	6	3	5	2	20	45

TABLE V.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1910.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks	Total under 1 month	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
ALL CAUSES	Certified Uncertified	2				2	2	1				1						6
Common Infectious Diseases.	Small Pox																	
	Chicken Pox																	
	Measles																	
	Scarlet Fever ..																	
	Diphtheria: including Membranous Croup																	
Diarrhoeal Diseases.	Whooping Cough																	
	Diarrhoea, all forms																	
	Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis							1										1
Wasting Diseases.	Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh																	
	Premature Birth	1				1	1											2
	Congenital Defects	1				1												1
Tuberculous Diseases.	Injury at Birth																	
	Want of Breast Milk, Starvation																	
	Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus											1						1
Other Causes.	Tuberculous Meningitis																	
	Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes Mesenterica																	
	Other Tuberculous Diseases																	
Other Causes.	Erysipelas																	
	Syphilis																	
	Rickets																	
	Meningitis (not Tuberculous)																	
	Convulsions																	
	Bronchitis																	
	Laryngitis																	
	Pneumonia																	
	Suffocation, overlying																	
	Other causes						1											1
		2				2	2	1				1						6

Table I shows that 110 births were registered in 1910, and that the birth rate amounted to 20·3 per 1,000 of the population; as compared with an average rate during the 10 years 1900—1909 of 22·6. The corresponding rate of England and Wales amounted to 24·8 per 1,000 of the population, a rate which is 0·8 per 1,000 below that in 1909, and lower than the rate in any other year on record. Compared with the average in the 10 years 1900—1909, the District birth rate in 1910 showed a decrease of 2·3 per 1,000. The regrettable decline is occurring not only in your district but in the country generally.

To some extent however this is counterbalanced by the general decrease in the infantile mortality; nevertheless it is deplorable, and if continued must affect the national welfare.

Table I shows that the total number of deaths registered in your District in 1910 was 72, and that the death rate upon this basis amounted to 13·3. On the other hand the “net death rate,” arrived at by including “deaths of residents registered in Public Institutions” outside the District but who belonged to it, equalled 15·0, as compared with 12·6 the average for the years 1900—09.

Last year (Table I) there were 9 deaths of “residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the district,” who belonged to Feckenham Rural District, viz.: Alcester Workhouse 6, Worcester Infirmary 1, Smallwood Hospital 1, and Birmingham Hospital 1.

The death rate in England and Wales in 1910 was 13·4 per 1,000 which was 1·1 per 1,000 below the rate in 1909, and lower than the rate in any other year on record; compared with the average rate in the 10 years 1900—09, the death rate in 1910 showed a decrease of 2·4 per 1,000.

The local “infantile mortality” of 1910 was extremely low (55), and the lowest recorded for the past 10 years.

Table VI shows that the local zymotic death rates, as compared with those of England and Wales, are favourable.

TABLE VI.

Rates per 1,000 of population.

	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.		Principal Epidemic Diseases.	Smallpox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Whooping Cough.	Fever.	Diarrhœa.	Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 Births.
		Crude.	Corrected.									
Feckenham Rural District	20·3	13·3	15·0	0·3	0·0	0·0	0·0	0·0	0·0	0·3	0·0	55
England and Wales	24·8	13·4	13·4	0·9	0·0	0·23	0·06	0·12	0·24	0·05	0·29	106

Scarlatina.

Table VII shows the monthly incidence of *Scarlatina* in 1910.

TABLE VII.

Locality.	No. of cases in each month.	Total.	Dates of fatal cases.
Astwood Bank	Feb. (7), Mar. (6), Oct. (1), Nov. (1),	15	
Cladswell, near Cookhill	July (1),	1	
Ridgeway	Feb. (1), Mar. (1),	2	
Webheath	Sept. (1), Dec. (1),	2	
	Feb. (8), Mar. (7), July (1), Sept. (1), Oct. (1), Nov. (1), Dec. (1),	20	None.

All these 20 cases were removed to the Sanatorium, and 18 of them occurred in children under 15 years of age (Table III).

From Table VII. it will be seen that nearly all the cases occurred at Astwood Bank and that most of them appeared during the March quarter. It was necessary to close the local schools on March 4th for disinfection. Personal infection, as usual, was the channel of infection. Each of the cases which occurred at Astwood Bank in October and November were imported. The Webheath case notified in December was a "return" case; a girl in the same house having come out of the sanatorium a short time before it developed. The usual precautionary measures were taken in all instances.

Diphtheria.

Table VIII shows where *Diphtheria* occurred.

TABLE VIII.

Locality.	No. of Cases in each month.	Total.	Dates of fatal cases.
Callow Hill	May. (1),	1	
Walkwood, Hunt End	Dec. (1),	1	
	May. (1), Dec. (1),	2	None.

One of these cases was removed to the Sanatorium, and the other was isolated at home.

That at Callow Hill seems to have been associated with local insanitary conditions, which were only abated as the result of legal proceedings.

Typhoid Fever.

Table IX shows where Typhoid Fever occurred in 1910.

TABLE IX.

Locality.	No. of Cases in each month.	Total.	No. of fatal cases.
Astwood Bank Cookhill (Chamberlain's Lane)	Jan. (1),	1	2
	Aug. (2), Sept. (1),	3	
	Jan. (1), Aug. (2), Sept. (1),	4	2

The Astwood Bank case was imported from Birmingham.

On the 8th August I received a letter from a medical man notifying a case of Typhoid in the person of an adult male who resided in one of an isolated block of 6 houses at Cookhill. It appeared from the letter that the man was taken ill on July 9th but did not seek medical aid until the 22nd, and that it was impossible to diagnose the case earlier, owing to ambiguous symptoms. I visited the locality the same day and found that a girl, aged 6, who resided at another of the houses referred to, sickened with the same complaint on July 25th. The third case did not occur until the end of September, when the mother of this girl, who nursed her daughter, developed the complaint. In addition to these cases, I was also informed by the Medical Officer of Health for King's Norton, that a girl from Kings Heath stayed at one of these houses, and developed the disease on her return home; so that altogether there were four cases of Typhoid Fever connected with this locality. I went carefully into the history of the cases, and it appeared that the first case (the adult male) had been working in different parts of the district, and it is very doubtful as to where and how he contracted the ailment; but I have no doubt that he accidentally caused the outbreak, and that the disease was spread through the local insanitary conditions.

I caused two samples of two wells to be analysed, and on the 10th August, i.e., two days after the outbreak was notified, I advised the Sanitary Inspector that these waters were unfit for use, and requested him to consult the Chairman of the Sanitary Committee, and at once proceed to get the insanitary condition of these premises dealt with, for it was important that there should be no delay. Every precautionary measure practicable was taken, and I am glad to say that the outbreak was suppressed, but unfortunately the man and the girl attacked, died.

Puerperal Fever.

One case of Puerperal Fever occurred at Crabb's Cross in December. Neither the midwife in attendance, nor anyone else was blameable. The usual precautions were taken.

Inflammation of the Eyes in Infants (Ophthalmia Neonatorum).

I am glad to say you adopted the scheme outlined in Appendix E. and have applied to the Local Government Board for permission to make this a notifiable disease. I do not think there are many of these cases in your district; but should the scheme be as successful as in the County Borough of Stoke-on-Trent in preventing children going blind, I am sure you will not regret the expense.

Consumption (Phthisis).

Table X. shows the deaths registered, and death rates in your District during 1910, and compares them with corresponding ones of the County.

TABLE X.

	1910	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902
No. of Deaths	5	8	8	4	4	5	10	4	6
Death rate *	9.2	14.6	14.5	7.2	7.2	9.0	18.0	7.2	10.8
County Death Rate *	Not known	7.9	8.1	7.8	7.8	8.0	7.7	7.5	8.4

Total Deaths, 54. Average District annual death rate for 9 years, 10.8 per 10,000. Average County annual death rate per 10,000 for 8 years, 7.9.

* Per 10,000 of the population.

Your Consumption death rate for 1910 (9.2 per 10,000), although less than that of the year before (14.6), is considerably higher than it should be, and compares unfavourably with the corresponding County rates.

One case of Consumption was "notified" under the "Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations 1908," and 3 by the "Voluntary arrangement." One of the latter died on January 4th, 1910, and the other one a week later. The Poor-law case has now removed to Dudley.

In all probability there were at least 25 to 30 cases in the district last year: it is obvious therefore that most of them were not reported.

This state of things will doubtless continue until Consumption is *compulsorily* notifiable.

"Leaflets" with regard to prevention and cure of the disease were circulated, and your Inspector reported to me every 3 months what precautionary measures were adopted by the affected persons. Special reference is made to Consumption in my "General Observations" (pp. 6 and 7). I much regret that you rescinded your "resolution" to send patients to the "Knightwick Sanatorium" (as you are

empowered to do under S. 131 of the Public Health Act 1875) before you saw what benefits would have accrued.

If Consumption is to be effectually grappled with, more active measures will have to be adopted, and operatives in factories will have to appreciate that windows are made to be kept open nearly always, and that they ought to utilize the facilities afforded them.

Isolation Hospital.

Twenty patients suffering from Scarlatina, and 1 from Diphtheria, were sent to the "Hertford Sanatorium." This Institution, as you know, is in Warwickshire, and consequently does not come under my supervision in any way; although for many years it used to do so.

Small-pox having recently obtained a footing in London and other places, I communicated with the Medical Superintendent of the "Sanatorium" (Dr. Browne, Alcester), who wrote me "the buildings are ready for use any day, at a few hours' notice."

Disinfection.

I am sorry to say there is no "Steam Disinfector" at the Sanatorium; consequently infected bedding and clothing are imperfectly disinfected. Unsuccessful efforts were made a few years ago to induce the Joint Hospital Committee to purchase one. The cost of such a necessary appliance is comparatively small. The disinfection of infected places in your District is up-to-date, as you have provided your Inspector with an "Alformant Lamp" and "Mackenzie Sprayer."

Schools.

The following Schools were closed during the year:

Astwood Bank Council, Boys and Girls Depts.	-	4 Mch. (incl.)	3 days	For the purposes of disinfection after Scarlet Fever.
Astwood Bank Council, Inf. Dept.	- - -	4 Mch. (incl.)	1 week and 1 day	Scarlet Fever.
Cookhill Council	- -	27 July (incl.)	10 days	Scarlet Fever.
Abbots Morton C.E.	- -	9 Sept.	11 days	Chickenpox.
Abbots Morton C.E.	- -	25 Oct.	9 days	Severe Colds and Sore Throats.

As mentioned last year, your Inspector made a sanitary survey of the local schools during 1908, and the defects discovered were dealt with as circumstances required.

House Accommodation.

You appointed your Sanitary Inspector in November last to compile the obligatory "records" (See Appendix C.) the Housing Act of 1909 requires to be done.

His Annual Report attached shows what has been done since then. I commend the following statement in that report to your special consideration, viz.: "out of 30 houses inspected there were 4 cases of overcrowding, and as the work of inspection proceeds, I have reason to anticipate that this number will be considerably increased. No action has been taken to abate any of these cases, as I do not know of any void houses (at least suitable for the working class) in this district."

As only 1 house was built during the year, this is a serious matter which sooner or later must be faced.

If Mr. Dolphin's anticipations are realized—as I think quite likely—the question of your taking action under Part III of the "Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909," and yourselves building houses, will have to be considered. This is a subject which is now coming to the front in various parts of the County, and can be set in motion by (a) "four inhabitant householders," (b) or "a Parish Council or Parish Meeting," making a representation either to you, the County Council, or the Local Government Board.

It should be mentioned however, that before the Local Government Board take action on such complaint they are required to consider:

- (i). The necessity for further accommodation.
- (ii). The probability that the accommodation will not be otherwise provided, and the other circumstances of the case,
- (iii). Whether having regard to the liability which will be incurred by the rates, it is prudent to undertake the provision of such work (s. 10. 21).

It is certain however that the Local Government Board intend to see that this Act is carried out; for they have already appointed special inspectors to deal with it.

Water Supply.

The most populous parts of your district, viz.: Astwood Bank, Crabb's Cross, and Hunt End, are provided with water works.

You supplied Astwood Bank some years ago by aid of a loan, and take water "in bulk" from the "East Worcestershire Water Company."

This Company laid their own "mains" at Crabb's Cross and Hunt End.

Only 5 additional houses were supplied from the mains during the year. Most of the other parts of the District are supplied by wells. A well at Feckenham having recently been found to be polluted, without special cause, it seems that others may also be. I therefore suggest that you order a number of analyses to be made, in order to decide the question.

There is no scarcity of water in any part of the District, except at Stock Wood where several people use a pool. Efforts were made some years ago to supply this locality with a proper supply, but it was found impracticable to do so.

Milk Supply.

I specially commend my remarks on Milk Supply given under "General Observations" (p. 3) to your consideration.

There are 21 persons engaged in the milk trade on the "register." Your Inspector reports that "34 visits were made to these cowsheds. "The dairies on the whole are kept very clean, but the cowsheds in "many instances leave much to be desired, and many visits at short "intervals are necessary to induce a reasonably clean condition of "cowsheds."

I entirely agree with this, and can but reiterate a remark I made last year that "I am quite satisfied that generally cows and cowsheds "are not as well kept as they ought to be." I suggest that your Inspector should present 3 reports on each cowshed every year (viz.: 1 in October, 1 in January, and 1 in April), and that you frame suitable "regulations," as is now usually done.

Sewerage.

The vexed question as to whether or not Hunt End should be sewered has advanced a stage during the past year, the Local Government Board having sent one of their Engineers (Mr. Sandford Fawcett) to inspect the locality and report to the Board.

As the outcome of this, the Board sent letters to you, to the Alcester District Council, and to the Worcestershire and Warwickshire County Councils on 29th December, 1910, of which the following is a copy, viz.:

Local Government Board,
Whitehall, S.W.,
29th December, 1910.

Sir,

I am directed by the Local Government Board to state that they have had under their consideration the report of their Inspector, Mr. Fawcett, after his recent visit to Crabb's Cross and Hunt End.

It appears to the Board that these two places should be properly sewered, and they are advised that this could best be done by means of a joint sewerage scheme by the Feckenham and Alcester Rural District Councils.

The Board think it desirable, therefore, that the two Councils should confer together at an early date, with a view to arranging for the carrying out of such a scheme.

If the Rural District Council desire it, the Board will be prepared to arrange for one of their Inspectors to be present at the Conference.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. S. DAVY,

Assistant Secretary.

I know you promptly approached the Alcester Rural District Council on the subject, but apparently neither they nor the Ipsley Parish Council think it is necessary to do anything.

The outfall works at Astwood Bank and Feckenham seem to have worked satisfactorily during the year.

Astwood Bank.

Your Inspector reports that the sewer in Dark Lane, Astwood Bank, burst 3 times during the year and that a Committee has the matter in hand.

Pollution of Streams.

There is no material pollution of streams in your District. Hunt End brook is in better condition now that the Fnfield Cycle and Motor Works are closed. I am informed that these buildings have recently been sold; but at present they have not been re-opened as a "factory."

Excrement Disposal.

Given Sewers and Water Works, W.C.'s are almost invariable required as s. 39 of the Public Health Act, 1907, is in force. In other cases W.C.'s have been erected. At the "Factories" privies or pail-closets are the only practical methods of excrement disposal. Your Inspector's report gives details of all nuisances dealt with.

Removal and Disposal of House Refuse.

Astwood Bank, Hunt End and Feckenham Villages are scavenged as heretofore by your own staff: 595 loads (224 of ashes and excrement and 371 of ashes and House refuse) have been removed. This work is superintended by your Sanitary Inspector.

Byelaws.

Bye-laws as to Slaughter-houses, Nuisances, and New Streets and Buildings and cleaning of Footpaths are enforced : the Sanitary Inspector, who is also Building Surveyor, is responsible for their administration : and as far as I can judge, this is well done.

Slaughter-houses.

There are 7 Slaughter-houses in the District, to which 21 visits were paid. Your Inspector says "on the whole they are kept very "clean and regularly white-washed. In 2 instances (he) had to warn "persons slaughtering cattle on premises which were not registered."

The Meat Question is dealt with under "General Observations."

Factories and Workshops.

There are 70 "Factories and Workshops" (14 Factories and 56 Workshops) in your District. Two of the latter were "certified for lime-washing," by the Inspector; and in 1 instance closet accommodation was provided.

Bakehouses.

The number of Bakehouses under supervision is the same as last year, viz.: 12; 29 visits were paid to these and they were found to be fairly well kept.

Legal Proceedings.

"Legal proceedings" had to be taken against an Agent of an Estate, on 3 occasions during the year; in each instance an "order" was made, and the defendant had to "pay costs."

I append your Inspector's Report.

Your obedient servant,

G. H. FOSBROKE, D.P.H., Camb.,

County Medical Officer.

SHIREHALL, WORCESTER,

February, 1911.

Sanitary Inspector's Annual Report for the year ending
31st December, 1910.

Cowsheds and Dairies.

There are 21 persons engaged in the milk trade on the register. During the year 34 visits have been made to these cowsheds. The Dairies on the whole are kept very clean, but the Cowsheds in many instances leave much to be desired, and many visits at short intervals are necessary to insure a reasonably clean condition of cowsheds.

Bake-houses.

There are 12 Bakehouses in the District, which are kept in a fairly clean condition, only one notice was necessary for the purpose of lime-washing. 29 visits have been made during the year.

Slaughter-houses.

There are 7 Slaughter-houses. 21 visits have been made, on the whole they are kept very clean and regularly lime-washed; only 1 notice was necessary for this purpose. In 2 instances I have had to warn persons for slaughtering cattle on premises which were not registered.

Factories and Workshops.

There are 70 Factories and Workshops in the District. 2 were certified for lime-washing, and in 1 instance separate closet accommodation had to be provided.

Public Elementary Schools.

There are 6 Public Elementary Schools in the District. All have been visited. In 1908 I made a sanitary survey of all Schools, and several improvements were carried out, consequently nothing has been found necessary to be done during the year so far as the Sanitary Authority are concerned.

Scavenging.

Astwood Bank, Hunt End and Feckenham are scavenged as usual. 595 loads of ashes, refuse and excrement being removed.

Byelaws.

Bye-laws as to Slaughter-houses, Nuisances, and New Streets and Buildings and cleaning of Footpaths are enforced: the Sanitary Inspector, who is also Building Surveyor, is responsible for their administration: and as far as I can judge, this is well done.

Slaughter-houses.

There are 7 Slaughter-houses in the District, to which 21 visits were paid. Your Inspector says "on the whole they are kept very clean and regularly white-washed. In 2 instances (he) had to warn persons slaughtering cattle on premises which were not registered."

The Meat Question is dealt with under "General Observations."

Factories and Workshops.

There are 70 "Factories and Workshops" (14 Factories and 56 Workshops) in your District. Two of the latter were "certified for lime-washing," by the Inspector; and in 1 instance closet accommodation was provided.

Bakehouses.

The number of Bakehouses under supervision is the same as last year, viz.: 12; 29 visits were paid to these and they were found to be fairly well kept.

Legal Proceedings.

"Legal proceedings" had to be taken against an Agent of an Estate, on 3 occasions during the year; in each instance an "order" was made, and the defendant had to "pay costs."

I append your Inspector's Report.

Your obedient servant,

G. H. FOSBROKE, D.P.H., Camb.,

County Medical Officer.

SHIREHALL, WORCESTER,

February, 1911.

Sanitary Inspector's Annual Report for the year ending
31st December, 1910.

Cowsheds and Dairies.

There are 21 persons engaged in the milk trade on the register. During the year 34 visits have been made to these cowsheds. The Dairies on the whole are kept very clean, but the Cowsheds in many instances leave much to be desired, and many visits at short intervals are necessary to insure a reasonably clean condition of cowsheds.

Bake-houses.

There are 12 Bakehouses in the District, which are kept in a fairly clean condition, only one notice was necessary for the purpose of lime-washing. 29 visits have been made during the year.

Slaughter-houses.

There are 7 Slaughter-houses. 21 visits have been made, on the whole they are kept very clean and regularly lime-washed; only 1 notice was necessary for this purpose. In 2 instances I have had to warn persons for slaughtering cattle on premises which were not registered.

Factories and Workshops.

There are 70 Factories and Workshops in the District. 2 were certified for lime-washing, and in 1 instance separate closet accommodation had to be provided.

Public Elementary Schools.

There are 6 Public Elementary Schools in the District. All have been visited. In 1908 I made a sanitary survey of all Schools, and several improvements were carried out, consequently nothing has been found necessary to be done during the year so far as the Sanitary Authority are concerned.

Scavenging.

Astwood Bank, Hunt End and Feckenham are scavenged as usual. 595 loads of ashes, refuse and excrement being removed.

Legal Proceedings.

In 3 instances it was necessary to take magisterial proceedings against a Solicitor of Droitwich, for non-compliance with notices under the Public Health Act 1875. In each case the Court made an order for the work to be carried out in 28 days, and defendant was ordered to pay all costs, including advocate's fee.

Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909.

Since November 4th, the following Inspections, etc., have been made :

Number of houses inspected	.. ..	30
Number of inspections made	.. ..	62
Houses represented as unfit for habitation		1
Closing orders made by local authority	..	—
„ „ became operative	.. ..	—
Defects remedied without closing order	..	18
„ „ after „ „	.. ..	—
Closing orders determined	.. ..	—
Orders to execute work under section 15		28
Work executed under section 15	..	18

Remarks :

Out of the 30 houses inspected there are 4 cases of overcrowding, and as the work of inspection proceeds I have reason to anticipate that this number will be considerably increased. No action has been taken to abate any of these cases as I do not know of any void houses (at least suitable for the working class) in this district.

GEORGE DOLPHIN,

Sanitary Inspector.

11th February, 1911.

Inspector's Report of the Sanitary Work completed in the year
ending 31st December, 1910.

Prevention of Infectious Disease under direction of Medical Officer of Health.	No. of cases enquired into - - - -	36
	No. of houses disinfected and cleansed - -	29
	No. of patients removed to Hospital - -	22
	Lots of bedding, clothing, etc., disinfected or destroyed - - - -	—
	Cases of illegal exposure reported - - -	—
Houses.	No. erected (if information obtainable) - -	1
	No. made fit for habitation - - - -	8
	No. closed as unfit for habitation - - -	—
	No. cleansed and lime-washed - - - -	46
Overcrowding.	No. of cases abated - - - -	1
House-drains.	No. laid or re-laid - - - -	22
	No. cleansed, trapped and ventilated - - -	18
	No. of defective waste-pipes rectified - - -	4
	No. of insanitary lavatories, sinks and urinals rectified - - - -	25
	No. of dumb wells rectified - - - -	5
Water Closets.	No. of additional W. C.'s provided - - -	4
	No. repaired, ventilated and supplied with flush cisterns - - - -	3
Privies and Ash-pits.	No. of additional privies and ashpits provided - -	1
	No. converted to W.C.'s or slop-closets - -	2
	No. converted to pail-closets - - - -	13
	No. repaired - - - -	23
Dust Receptacles (portable).	No. of new dust receptacles provided - - -	—
Scavenging.	Total No. of houses from which refuse removable - -	—
	Total No. of privies and ashpits cleansed - -	—
	Total No. of portable receptacles cleansed - -	—
	Total No. of loads of ashes and excrement removed - - - -	224
	Total No. of loads of ashes and refuse removed - -	371
Smoke Nuisances.	No. under observation - - - -	—
	No. abated - - - -	—
Offensive Trades.	No. under observation - - - -	3
	No. improperly conducted - - - -	1
Water Supply.	No. of wells sunk - - - -	—
	No. of wells cleansed and repaired - - -	5
	No. of wells closed as polluted - - - -	1
	No. of houses supplied from waterworks (during year) - - - -	5
	No. of samples of water sent for analysis - -	6
Slaughter-houses.	No. registered or licensed - - - -	7
	No. regularly inspected - - - -	7
	No. cleansed and repaired - - - -	7

Factories and Workshops.	No. under inspection - - - - -	70
	No. certified for lime-washing by Inspector -	2
	No. of insanitary conditions dealt with as nuisances	1
	No. employing "young persons," etc., reported to Medical Officer of Health - - - -	—
Shop Hours Act.	No. of shops under supervision - - - -	—
	No. of contraventions of Act dealt with - -	—
Dairies and Cowsheds.	No. of persons engaged in milk trade now on Register and under supervision - - -	21
	No. of contraventions of Acts, Orders, and Bye-laws dealt with - - - - -	—
	No. of infected milk supplies reported by Inspector	—
Canal Boats.	No. of boats on Register - - - - -	—
	No. of boats registered during year - - -	—
	No. of certificates renewed - - - - -	—
	No. of boats inspected (for registration or otherwise) - - - - -	—
	No. of contraventions of Acts and Regulations dealt with - - - - -	—
Lodging Houses.	No. on Register - - - - -	—
	No. regularly inspected - - - - -	—
	No. cleansed and repaired - - - - -	—
Food.	No. of seizures as unfit for consumption - -	—
Food and Drugs Act.	No. of samples taken for analysis - - -	—
	No. of samples certified genuine - - -	—
	No. of samples certified adulterated - - -	—
Animals kept so as to be a Nuisance.	No. of cases of removal on notice - - -	—
Accumulation of offensive refuse.	No. of removals - - - - -	2
Legal proceedings	No. taken - - - - -	3
	No. of convictions obtained - - - - -	3
	No. of cases withdrawn or dismissed - - -	—
Clerical Work.	No. of official letters written - - - -	343
	No. of notices served - - - - -	50
	No. of notices complied with - - - - -	46
	No. of notices outstanding - - - - -	4

Remarks :

The Roofs have been repaired at eight houses, and defective paving and eave gutters at ten.

The sewer in Dark Lane, Astwood Bank, has burst on several occasions during the year, and a Committee has been chosen to have done what works they think will prevent a recurrence.

APPENDIX A.

Memorandum as to Annual Reports of Medical Officers of Health for 1910.

In November, 1910, the Local Government Board issued a Special Memorandum as to the Annual Reports of Medical Officers of Health, and drew attention to the fact that Tables I.-V.* for 1911 will be materially changed in connection with the announcement of the Registrar General that he will publish statistics for *Sanitary Districts* in England and Wales.

Copies of these Tables have been sent to Medical Officers of Health, but, as they are inapplicable this year, it seems unnecessary to refer to them now.

The Board mention that "it should be remembered that these reports are for the information of the Board and of the County Council as well as of the Council of the District, and that a statement of the local circumstances and a history of local sanitary questions which may seem superfluous for the latter, may often be needed by the former bodies."

IT IS EXPECTED (THE BOARD SAY) THAT EACH OF THE FOLLOWING POINTS WILL BE MENTIONED IN THE ANNUAL REPORT AND THE EXTENT OF ACTION OR ABSENCE OF ACTION ON EACH OF THEM DEFINITELY STATED.

Physical features and general character of the district and general conditions of its population.

The chief occupations of the inhabitants, and the influence of any particular occupation on public health.

House accommodation, especially for the working classes: its adequacy and fitness for habitation. Sufficiency of open space about houses, and cleanliness of surroundings. Supervision over erection of new houses. Action under Parts I., II. and III. respectively of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, taken or needed.

Note *—These Tables are and have been used in the District Annual Reports for years past.—G. H. F.

Water supply of the district or of its several parts : its source (from public service or otherwise), nature (river water, well water, upland water, etc.) sufficiency, wholesomeness, and freedom (by special treatment or otherwise) from risks of pollution. In the case of waters liable to have plumbo-solvent action, any facts, either clinical or chemical, whether negative or positive, as to contamination of the water by lead should be stated, and whether administrative action has been taken during the year in respect of such contamination.

Milk supply : character and wholesomeness of milk produced within the district or imported ; condition of dairies, cow-sheds, and milkshops ; administration in regard to milk. Tuberculous milk.

Other foods : unsound food and food inspection ; sanitary condition of premises where foods are prepared, stored, or exposed for sale. Meat inspection, disease in meat, and condition of slaughterhouses. Action under Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, taken or needed. Action under section 117 of the Public Health Act, 1875. Number of carcasses and parts of carcasses condemned for tuberculosis. Information on this point should be given even when entirely negative.

Sewerage and Drainage : its sufficiency in all parts of the district. Condition of sewers and house drains. Method or methods of disposal of sewage. Localities where improvements are needed.

Pollution of rivers and streams in the district : the sources and nature of such pollution, and any action taken to check it.

Excrement disposal : system in vogue ; defects, if any.

Removal and disposal of house refuse—whether by public scavenger or occupiers : frequency and method.

Nuisances : proceedings for their abatement—any remaining unabated.

Byelaws as to houses let in lodgings, offensive trades, etc. Details as to number of premises coming under each set of bye-laws, and action taken. Any need of amendment or further bye-laws.

Schools, especially public elementary schools ; sanitary condition of, including water supply ; action taken in relation to the health of the scholars and for preventing the spread of infectious disease. Arrangements for medical inspection of school children.

Methods of dealing with infectious diseases ; notification ; isolation hospital accommodation, its sufficiency and efficiency ; disinfection.

Methods of control of tuberculosis ; whether any system of notification of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, compulsory or voluntary, is in operation. Number of cases notified ; what action is taken in respect of known cases and of deaths. Amount of hospital accommodation for cases of pulmonary tuberculosis in infirmaries and elsewhere, for advanced and for earlier cases of the disease.

Section 132 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, which came into force on January 1st, 1902, requires that—

“The Medical Officer of Health of every District Council shall, in his annual report to them, report specifically on the administration of this Act in workshops and work-places, and he shall send a copy of his annual report or so much of it as deals with this subject, to the Secretary of State.”

The report is also required to deal with the extent, distribution, and causes of disease, especially of epidemic and notifiable disease, and to give an account of any noteworthy outbreaks of disease which have engaged the attention of the Medical Officer of Health.

The Infant Mortality has also to be dealt with.

G. H. FOSBROKE, D.P.H., Camb.,

County Medical Officer.

SHIREHALL, WORCESTER,

February, 1911.

APPENDIX B.

Memorandum on the Duties of Inspectors of Nuisances.

“The Sanitary Officers (outside London) Order, 1910,” which came into force on January 1st, 1911, requires new conditions as to the appointment and tenure of office of Medical Officers of Health and Inspectors of Nuisances. Under Article X. an Officer (which includes the Inspector of Nuisances) appointed for a specified term will continue to hold office from year to year after the expiration of that term, and no further approval by the Board will be required unless the terms of the appointment are altered. If the Council wish to dispense with the services of an Officer at the end of any year they must give him three months’ notice of their intention and at the same time send a copy of the notice to the Board. Under Art XXI. the Council, with the Board’s consent, may, at any time during the period of a limited appointment, change the appointment into one without limit of time.

In Article XX the duties of Inspectors of Nuisances are set out as follows :

Duties of Inspector of Nuisances.

Article XX.—The following shall be the duties of an Inspector of Nuisances as regards the District or part of the District for which he is appointed (in this Article referred to as “his District”) :—

- (1.) Subject to the directions of the Council, he shall perform, under the general supervision of the Medical Officer of Health, all the duties specially imposed upon an Inspector of Nuisances by the Public Health Act, 1875, or by any other Statute or Statutes, or by the Orders issued by Us, so far as the same apply to his office.
- (2.) He shall attend all meetings of the Council, or of Committees of the Council, when so required.
- (3.) He shall by inspection of his District, both systematically at certain periods, and at intervals as occasion may require, keep himself informed in respect of the nuisances existing therein that require abatement.

- (4.) On receiving notice of the existence of any nuisance within his district, or of the breach of any byelaws or regulations made by the Council for the suppression of nuisances, he shall, as early as practicable, visit the spot, and inquire into such alleged nuisance or breach of byelaws or regulations.
- (5.) He shall report to the Council any noxious or offensive businesses, trades, or manufactories established within his district, and the breach or non-observance of any byelaws or regulations made in respect thereof.
- (6.) He shall report to the Council any damage done to any works of water supply, or other works belonging to them, and also any case of wilful or negligent waste of water supplied by them, or any fouling by gas, filth, or otherwise, of water used or intended to be used for domestic purposes.
- (7.) He shall from time to time, and forthwith upon complaint, visit and inspect the shops and places kept or used for the preparation or sale of butchers' meat, poultry, fish, fruit, vegetables, corn, bread, flour, milk, or any other article to which the provisions of the Public Health Acts in this behalf apply, and examine any animal, carcase, meat, poultry, game, flesh, fish, fruit, vegetables, corn, bread, flour, milk, or other article as aforesaid, which may be therein ; and in case any such article appear to him to be intended for the food of man, and to be unfit for such food, he shall cause the same to be seized, and take such other proceedings as may be necessary in order to have the same dealt with by a Justice. He shall also take such action as it may be necessary for him to take by virtue of the provisions of the Public Health (Regulations as to Food) Act, 1907, and any Regulations made thereunder : Provided that in any case of doubt arising under this paragraph, he shall report the matter to the Medical Officer of Health, with the view of obtaining his advice thereon.
- (8.) He shall, when and as directed by the Council, procure and submit samples of food, drink, or drugs suspected to be adulterated, to be analysed by the analyst appointed under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1875, and upon receiving a certificate stating that the articles of food, drink, or drugs are adulterated, cause a complaint to be made, and take the other proceedings prescribed by that Act.
- (9.) He shall give immediate notice to the Medical Officer of Health of the occurrence within his District of any infectious or epidemic disease ; and whenever it appears to him that the intervention of such Officer is necessary in consequence of the existence of any nuisance injurious to health, or of any overcrowding in a house, he shall forthwith inform the Medical Officer of Health thereof.

- (10.) He shall, subject to the directions of the Council, attend to the instructions of the Medical Officer of Health with respect to any measures which can be lawfully taken by an Inspector of Nuisances under the Public Health Act, 1875, or under any other Statute or Statutes, or under any Regulations issued by Us, for preventing the spread of any infectious or epidemic disease.
- (11.) He shall enter from day to day, in a book to be provided by the Council, particulars of his inspections and of the action taken by him in the execution of his duties. He shall also keep a book or books, to be provided by the Council, so arranged as to form, as far as possible, a continuous record of the sanitary condition of each of the premises in respect of which any action has been taken under the Public Health Act, 1875, or under any other Statute or Statutes, or under any Regulations issued by Us, and shall keep any other systematic records that the Council may require.
- (12.) He shall at all reasonable times, when applied to by the Medical Officer of Health, produce to him his books, or any of them, and render to him such information as he may be able to furnish with respect to any matter to which the duties of Inspector of Nuisances relate.
- (13.) He shall, if directed by the Council to do so, superintend and see to the due execution of all works which may be undertaken under their direction for the suppression or removal of nuisances within his District.
- (14.) He shall, if directed by the Medical Officer of Health to do so, remove, or superintend the removal of, patients suffering from infectious disease to an infectious diseases hospital, and shall perform, or superintend, the work of disinfection after the occurrence of cases of infectious disease.
- (15.) He shall, if directed by the Council to do so, act as Officer of the Council as Local Authority under the Diseases of Animals Acts, 1894 to 1909, the Canal Boats Acts, 1877 and 1884, and under any Orders or Regulations made thereunder.
- (16.) He shall, as soon as practicable after the Thirty-first day of December in each year, furnish the Medical Officer of Health with a tabular statement containing the following particulars :
 - (a) the number and nature of inspections made by him during the year ;

- (b) the number of notices served during the year, distinguishing statutory from informal notices ;
 - (c) the result of the service of such notices.
- (17.) In matters not specifically provided for in this Order, he shall observe and execute any orders and directions which may be hereafter issued by Us and the lawful orders and directions of the Council, applicable to his office.

G. H. FOSBROKE, D.P.H., Camb.,
County Medical Officer.

SHIREHALL, WORCESTER,
February, 1911.

APPENDIX C.

Second Memorandum on the "Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909."

A Summary of the Sanitary Provisions of this Act, was given last year as an "Appendix" to the Annual Reports on the Borough of Evesham, and Evesham, Pershore, and Feckenham Rural Districts. It was then shown that Section 17 requires Local Authorities to cause regular inspection of their districts to be made, with a view to ascertain whether any dwelling-house is in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation; and that the further duty is imposed upon such authorities "to comply with such regulations and keep such records as may be prescribed by the Board."

When that Memorandum was presented, the Local Government Board had not formulated these "records," but on September 2nd, 1910, they issued the "Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations 1910."

This "Order" prescribes the matters in relation to which inspection should be made and the "records" to be kept of each inspection. These "records have to be prepared under the direction and supervision of the Medical Officer of Health." The Board point out that "the Local Authority usually designate the Sanitary Inspector as the officer to examine the state of the dwelling-houses and to keep records"; and each of the Authorities to whom these Reports refer has adopted this suggestion.

The headings of these "records" are :

1. The situation of the dwelling-house and its name or number.
2. The name of the officer who made the inspection.
3. The date when the dwelling-house was inspected.
4. The date of the last previous inspection and a reference to the record thereof.
5. The state of the dwelling-house in regard to
 - (a) The arrangements for preventing the contamination of water supply.
 - (b) Closet accommodation.
 - (c) Drainage.
 - (d) The condition of the dwelling-house in regard to light, the free circulation of air, dampness and cleanliness.
 - (e) The paving, drainage, and sanitary condition of any yard, or out-houses belonging to or occupied with the dwelling-house.

- (f) The arrangements for the deposit of refuse and ashes.
 - (g) The existence of any room habitually used as a sleeping place, the surface of the floor of which is more than three feet below the nearest street.
 - (h) Any defects in other matters which may tend to render the dwelling-house dangerous or injurious to the health of any inhabitant.
6. Any action taken by the Medical Officer of Health or other officer of the local Authority either independently or on the directions of the local Authority.
 7. The result of any action so taken.
 8. Any further action which should be taken in respect of the dwelling-house.

It is also obligatory upon Local Authorities to take these Records into consideration at their ordinary monthly meetings (unless they appoint a Committee to do so) and to give such directions, and take all such action within their powers, as may be necessary. The Board furthermore have also ordered all Medical Officers of Health to include in their Annual Reports a full statement of the work done, or required to be done, obviously that they might learn what the Local Authorities were doing under the Act.

The "records" will be tabulated for the Annual Reports as under :

- Number of houses inspected.
- Number of inspections made.
- Number represented as unfit for habitation.
- Number of Closing Orders made by the Local Authority.
- Number of Closing Orders that became operative.
- Number of Defects remedied without Closing Orders.
- Number of Defects remedied after Closing Orders.
- Number of Closing Orders determined.
- Number of Orders to execute works under Section 15.
- Number of Orders to execute work under Section 15 complied with.

The Board also require information as to action taken or needed under Part I (Unhealthy Areas) and Part III (Working Classes Lodging Houses) of the Act.

It is obvious that, as anticipated last year, compilation of these "records" imposes much increased responsibilities upon Local Authorities and their Sanitary Officials, and especially upon the Sanitary Inspectors whose onerous duty it will be to compile them.

G. H. FOSBROKE, D.P.H., Camb.,
County Medical Officer.

SHIREHALL, WORCESTER,
February, 1911.

APPENDIX D.

Plague and Destruction of Rats.

The following is extracted from a Memorandum, dated 12th November, 1910, issued by the Local Government Board on the subject of Plague, and from a "Leaflet" (No. 244) of the Board of Agriculture, dated December, 1910.

The Local Government Board point out that Plague, after being absent from Great Britain 200 years, made its re-appearance in 1900 and the two succeeding years, small outbreaks having occurred at Glasgow, Liverpool, Cardiff, and Leith during the past 10 years.

During 1910, cases suspected to be pneumonic plague were associated in Suffolk with definite occurrence of plague in rats and other rodents.

In view of these facts, Sanitary Authorities and their Officers are advised to be on the alert, and especially should they take steps for ascertaining the cause of any recognised excessive sickness in rats.

The Local Government Board then describe the symptoms, diagnosis, and method of spread of the disease.

As regards diagnosis, Medical Practitioners are advised (*a*) to bear the possibility of plague in mind; (*b*) to inquire into the antecedents of patients and the occurrence of rat-sickness; and (*c*) to avail themselves of bacteriological aid.

Method of Spread.

The pneumonic form is rare and directly infectious from patient to patient; in bubonic plague, personal infection, rarely if ever occurs; given elementary cleanliness, including absence of fleas and bugs, little risk is run by doctors, nurses, or other attendants.

In the majority of cases of human plague the poison enters through the skin by means of a flea-bite. The risk of infection is proportional to the extent to which the house or workplace is infested by plague-infected fleas.

Rats the Source of Plague.

Plague for administrative purposes may be regarded as a disease of rats. Fleas form the intermediaries between diseased rats and man. If the fleas of infected rats (or of such other animals as occasionally suffer from plague) are excluded from access to human beings, plague will seldom, if ever, spread from animals to man.

Measures against Plague.

The experience of Glasgow shows that in this country the disease in man can easily be controlled under conditions of efficient sanitary administration.

Precautions against Human Infection.

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD ORDER OF SEPT., 1900, REQUIRES, UNDER PENALTY, IMMEDIATE "NOTIFICATION" TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, AND BY HIM TO THE BOARD. ISOLATION OF ALL PATIENTS IS DESIRABLE, AMONG OTHER REASONS, BECAUSE DISINFECTION AND THE DIS-INFESTATION OF PREMISES FROM VERMIN CAN BE MORE EFFICIENTLY SECURED. PERSONS LIABLE TO BE EXPOSED TO DIRECT INFECTION WILL DO WELL TO PROTECT THEMSELVES BY MEANS OF THE PLAGUE PROPHYLACTIC. PERSONAL CLEANLINESS IS ESSENTIAL.

Precautions in regard to Inanimate Objects.

The removal of all heaps of refuse, especially of garbage, affording food for rats, the removal of empty boxes, or rubbish allowing rats to hide near houses, the stoppage of rat runs with broken glass and tar, the repairing of drains in houses, are among the most important methods for preventing the spread of plague by the rat.

These, and other like methods, which will occur to all, are directed towards **preventing the access of rats to, or their entrance into houses.** If rats are kept out of dwellings danger is relatively small. Cats which have worried plague-infected vermin may bring rat fleas into houses; but the presence of a cat in a house is one of the best safeguards against domestic invasion by rats or mice.

Precautions against Rats.

The continuous suppression of rats is called for.

Even in districts not affected with rat-plague, Sanitary Inspectors should be on the watch for unusual mortality among rats, and efforts should be made to ensure the *systematic and continuous destruction of rats*. Precautionary measures of this kind are specially called for in places where rats abound: such as granaries, meat markets, slaughter houses, piggeries, dumping grounds for refuse, corn stacks, etc. Fleas leave the dead rat when it becomes cold.

Cremation is the best method of disposal of dead rats.

Leaflet (No. 244) of Board of Agriculture as to the Destruction of Rats.

This describes the two kinds of rats, (the black rat (*mus rattus*) and the brown or sewer rat (*mus decumanus*)) found in Great Britain.

Many estimates have been made of the damage done by the rat population of England (such as £10,000,000 to £15,000,000 every year), but as these estimates are based on the assumption that the supplies consumed by rats would be otherwise available for human use, the reasoning is unsound. It is however generally admitted that the damage done is incalculable. Apart from the food consumed much damage is done to buildings, floors, and other kinds of wood-work. It is therefore desirable from an economic and a sanitary point of view that rats should, as far as possible, be destroyed. The destruction of rats is essentially a matter for local effort. Local effort however does not necessarily mean isolated or unsystematic effort. The formation of rat clubs is desirable, the custom being to offer a small reward for every rat killed within the district.

There are three methods which may be employed in the destruction of rats: (1) Hunting; (2) Trapping; (3) The use of poison or rat virus—Liverpool, Danysz, and Ratin. Ratin seemed to be most successful last year in East Suffolk, where plague appeared.

As regards trapping, the spring trap which kills the rat at once when the spring is released is the best. Another kind is the wire trap, on the eel-basket principle, which the rat can enter easily, when attracted by the bait, but cannot leave.

Rat poisons can easily be obtained, and are generally composed of phosphorus paste, or arsenic, but strychnine may also be employed, while the use of barium carbonate has also been recommended. Plaster of Paris is sometimes used mixed with flour. It must be remembered that rats are very suspicious, and if they find that any number of their fellows die after eating any kind of food, they will avoid such food for some time. It will be well therefore to vary the form and appearance of the poisoned baits at intervals. Thus after using poisoned bread for a while, oatmeal similarly treated should be used.

It is very necessary when using poisons to take precautions to avoid injury to other animals and human beings. In any case poisoned baits should only be laid by responsible persons.

Rat viruses on the other hand, of which there are several on the market, can be used without fear of direct injury to any animals other than rodents.

Reliance should not be placed on any one of the methods referred to above, but as far as possible under the circumstances *all these methods should be employed.*

If it is proposed to exterminate rats, combined efforts should be made over a wide area.

I addressed the following letter to each of the Sanitary Inspectors of Evesham Borough, and Evesham, Pershore, and Feckenham Rural Districts, on 15th December, 1910.

Plague.

No doubt the Clerk of your District Council has, as requested by the Local Government Board, sent you a copy of the Board's circular letter dated 12th November last, and of their Memo. on Plague, each of which of course you have carefully read. You will have noticed that by the Board's Order of September, 1900, immediate notification of Plague is compulsory, and I suggest that you should take every opportunity of letting this be known locally. I particularly wish to call your attention to the important recommendations made by the Board on page 4, and as an aid to the destruction of rats I enclose you three prints of Leaflet No. 244, issued by the Board of Agriculture with regard to the destruction of rats. Please do your best to impress on all persons the importance of destroying rats, and particularly those to be found in the neighbourhood of dwellings.

It may be mentioned as the result of personal experience, that "Sandford's Rat Poison" is very effective.

G. H. FOSBROKE, D.P.H., Camb.,

County Medical Officer.

SHIREHALL, WORCESTER,

February, 1911.

APPENDIX E.

Inflammation of the Eyes, (Ophthalmia Neonatorum).

On 5th November, 1910, I sent a circular letter to each Medical Officer of Health in the Administrative County of Worcester, calling attention to a paragraph on page 70 of my County "Digest" of Reports for 1909, and asked him if he could see his way to accept the suggestion as to recommending his Council to adopt the system in vogue in the County Borough of Stoke-on Trent? I pointed out this system consists (1) in making Inflammation of the Eyes in new-born children under 10 days old (Ophthalmia Neonatorum) a Notifiable Disease under the Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889; (2) if the case be notified by a medical man, to see whether a nurse is required for day or night, and if so, for the Local Authority to provide her; (3) if the case is notified by a midwife, or other person except a medical man, to visit the case and urge the parents to call in a medical man. Should the parents hesitate to seek medical advice, attention to be called to Section 12 of the Children Act, which reads: "if any person over the age of 16 years, who has the custody, charge, or care of any child or young person, wilfully assaults, ill-treats, neglects, abandons, or exposes such child, or young person, or causes, or procures, such child or young person, to be assaulted, ill-treated, neglected abandoned, or exposed, in a manner likely to cause such child or young person, unnecessary suffering, or injury to health (including injury to, or loss of sight, or hearing, or limb, or organ of the body, and any mental derangement), that person shall be guilty of a misdemeanour, and shall be liable to a penalty."

On 10th December, 1910, I addressed the following letter to the Town Clerk of Evesham, and the Clerks of Evesham, Pershore, and Feckenham Rural District Councils.

Inflammation of the Eyes in Infants (Ophthalmia Neonatorum).

If you will refer to page 70 of my "Digest of Annual Reports for 1909," (a copy of which was sent to you) you will notice that I made special mention of this infantile disease, and pointed out the well-known fact, that it generally arises from purulent discharges from the mother getting into babies' eyes at birth, *and accounts for one-tenth of all cases of Blindness, and for at least one-third of the Blindness in the Inmates of Blind Schools.* I also called attention to a scheme which has been in operation in the County Borough of Stoke-on-Trent, and fifty other Districts, which has prevented many children attacked by this complaint becoming blind. This scheme is simple, and the law as it stands enables everything to be done

which is needful; and consists in scheduling Ophthalmia Neonatorum as notifiable and making provision for the medical treatment and nursing of the cases under s. 133 of the Public Health Act, 1875.

These cases of inflammation of eyes in new-born children up to ten days old, are admittedly few, and therefore the notification fees would be correspondingly small; furthermore, as it has been found in Staffordshire, that the services of a nurse paid by the Local Authority are only required in 24 per cent of the cases, the expenses of carrying out the scheme would be little.

Apart from the humanitarian aspect of the question, the financial gain in preventing blindness from this cause, would be very material, in view of the fact that the cost of educating a blind child amounts to about £500 as compared with £30, the cost of educating the ordinary child.

I venture to hope therefore that your Council will adopt this scheme, which has been found to prevent such numbers of infants losing their sight.

The result of the communications is very gratifying to me; for not only have the Corporation of Evesham, and the Rural District Councils of Evesham, Pershore, and Feckenham, adopted my suggestion, but of the other Sanitary Authorities in the County, 11 have adopted the scheme, 14 have not yet arrived at any decision; and 5 have decided not to adopt it (viz. :) Bewdley Borough, Redditch Urban, Halesowen, Stow, and Yardley Rural Districts.

These cases of Inflammation of the Eyes in new-born children undoubtedly are comparatively few, but I believe the scheme will save most of these from becoming blind. and should this be so, Local Authorities and the Ratepayers will be well repaid for the small cost entailed.

G. H. FOSBROKE, D.P.H., Camb.,
County Medical Officer.

SHIREHALL, WORCESTER,

February, 1911.

